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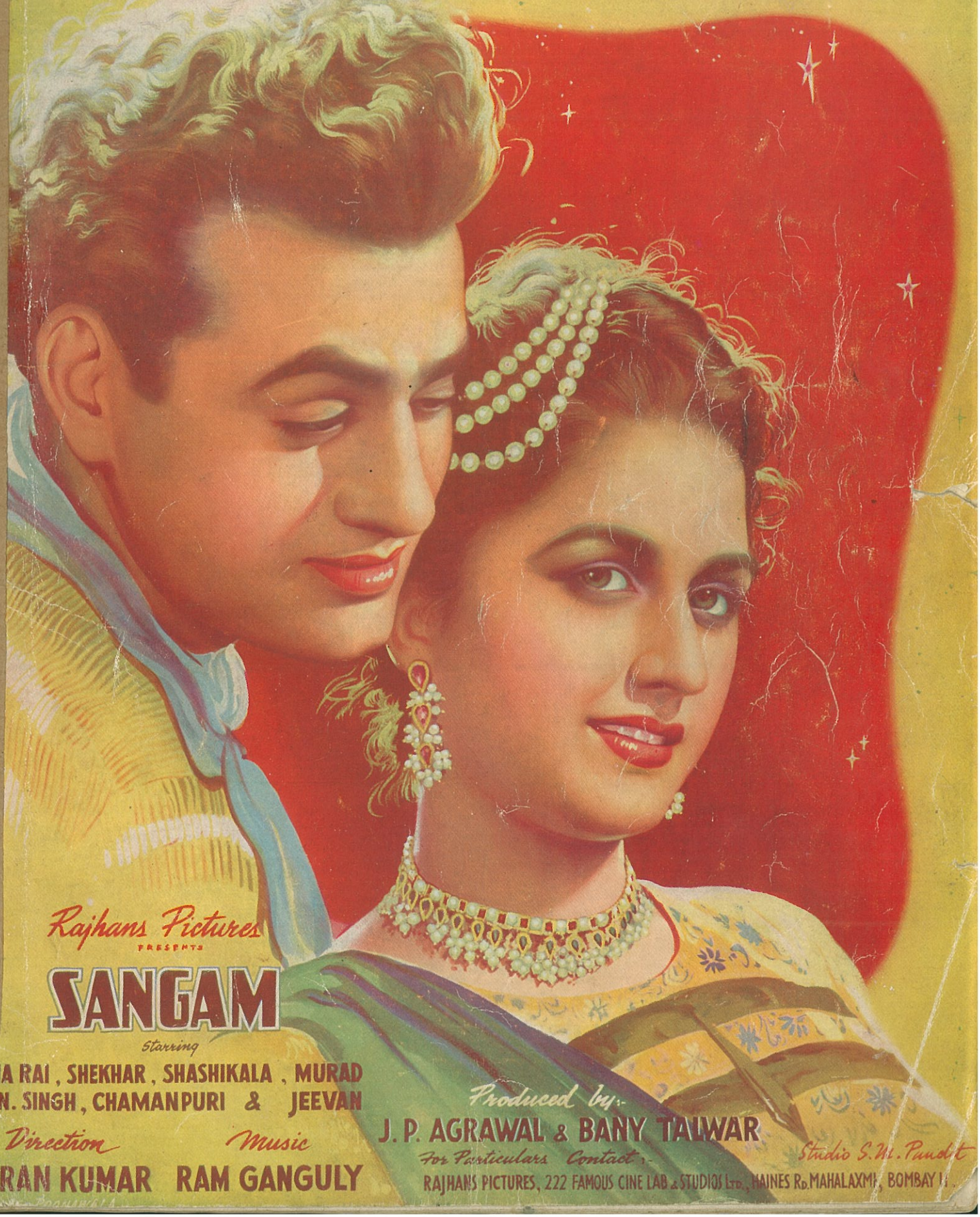

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SANGAM

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N. SINGH, CHAMANPURI & JEEVAN

Direction
RAN KUMAR

Music
RAM GANGULY

Produced by:-
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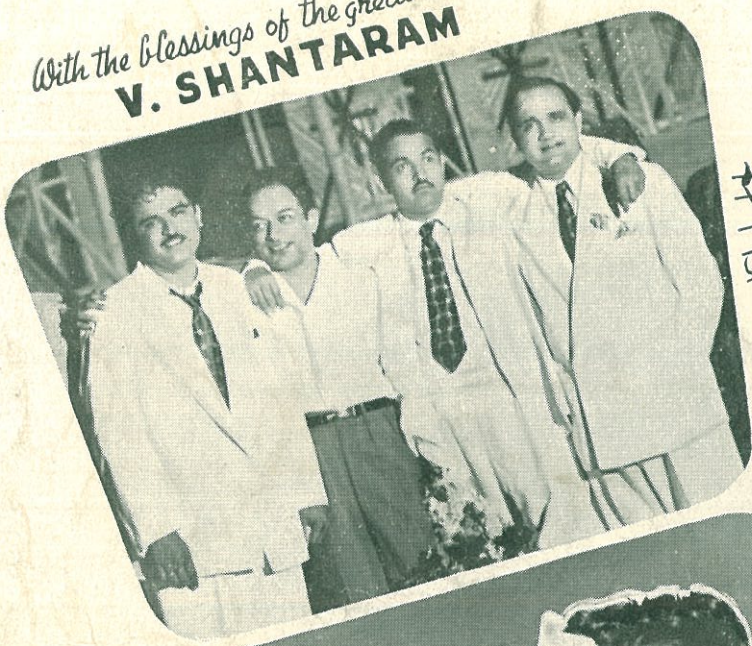

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M G. DAVE 'Qamar' Jallalabadi

Songs :

Scenario :
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We Accuse Morarji !

Chief Minister Morarji Desai is the one man in the Bombay State in 36 million people who has not yet realized that Prohibition in the State has failed as definitely as Morarji himself failed to score in the Bulsar Election.

But Prohibition is not like any other State project the failure of which would leave us merely with loss of money and pride. Prohibition is a moral measure for social reform and in its failure are sown the seeds of vice, crime and immorality. When a moral measure like Prohibition fails it exposes society to the risk of gangsterism, illicit profits and passionate crime never seen in normal times.

There is not the least doubt that Morarji means well when he asks people to give up the vicious habit of drinking, but he does not betray any intelligence or imagination when he clamps a law on the people prohibiting drinks. Apart from such a law interfering with the personal liberties of our people, it puts a premium on liquor—a premium that has provided an incentive for illicit distillation, vice, immorality and passionate crime.

We don't need a Morarji to tell us that drinking is a bad habit. Every drunkard realizes this every next morning after a binge. In fact drunkards know this truth far better than the non-drinking folks and we have come across many a toper giving us a convincing lecture on the virtues of abstinence.

Morarji or no Morarji, drunkards will drink till the Lord invites them to be His guests and share a drink with Him. Even if every drunkard found a policeman hiding in his shadow, he will still manage to get his day's fill legitimately or otherwise and if the policeman stops him in the act, there will be a dead policeman lying on the ground within a few minutes. It is a very dangerous thing to wrest his glass of liquor from a drunkard's hand. A good-humoured drunkard becomes a murderous brute in a minute if the glass in his hand is shattered before it reaches his lips. That is the nature of man which Morarji cannot change by seasonal sermons or prohibitive laws, however well-meant.

When man is denied something, he is bound to get it one way or other and in the process of getting it he throws virtue and principles to the winds. That is precisely what our ever sermonizing Chief Minister himself did when he was defeated in the Bulsar Constituency. Morarji had set his heart on becoming the Chief Minister of Bombay but when his Constituency denied him this privilege, he wangled to get in somehow sacrificing his personal pride, democratic principles and his much vaunted moral conscience. And even like the drunkard who drinks his glass of liquor unblushingly after murdering a prohibition policeman, Morarji is also swaggering from place to place today as Chief Minister, accepting receptions and congratulations unblushingly.

What is true of Morarji in the field of political ambition is as much true of a man who loves the cup that cheers but does not inebriate.

Laws, however strict and prohibitive, can not make a man moral and virtuous. If at all, prohibitive laws act as primary provocations to their breach. That is precisely what has happened in the case of Prohibition in Bombay.

Never was the State of Bombay more wet than now that it is supposed to be completely dry under the Prohibition Act. A perusal of the daily newspapers will completely prove this statement. Thousands of persons have been arrested and sent to jail for illicit distillation only in Greater Bombay. The seas and creeks surrounding the Island of Bombay are these days yielding gin and whiskey bottles instead of fish and crabs. Every little pot-hole in the earth between Bombay and Borivli accommodates a miniature distillery. As many as twelve such distilleries have been discovered in a plot of land measuring two thousand square yards. In Bombay and its suburbs alone there should be about 50,000 such distilleries for manufacturing illicit liquor from any stuff, from gur to kitchen refuse, that ferments. Morarji does not realize that these are poison factories the product of which is slowly killing our people and creating new health problems for our State.

The story in the villages never comes to light because there are not enough policemen to go round the fields and the forests to catch the law breakers. In the villages two policemen are normally given an area of about 100 square miles containing about a dozen villages, vast fields, forests, valleys and often a long river bed. These two policemen have enough of normal crime on their hands without worrying about prohibition crimes. It is obvious that two policemen cannot enforce prohibition in an area of 100 square miles populated by nearly 30,000 people and having fields, forests and river beds where illicit distillation can be safely practis-

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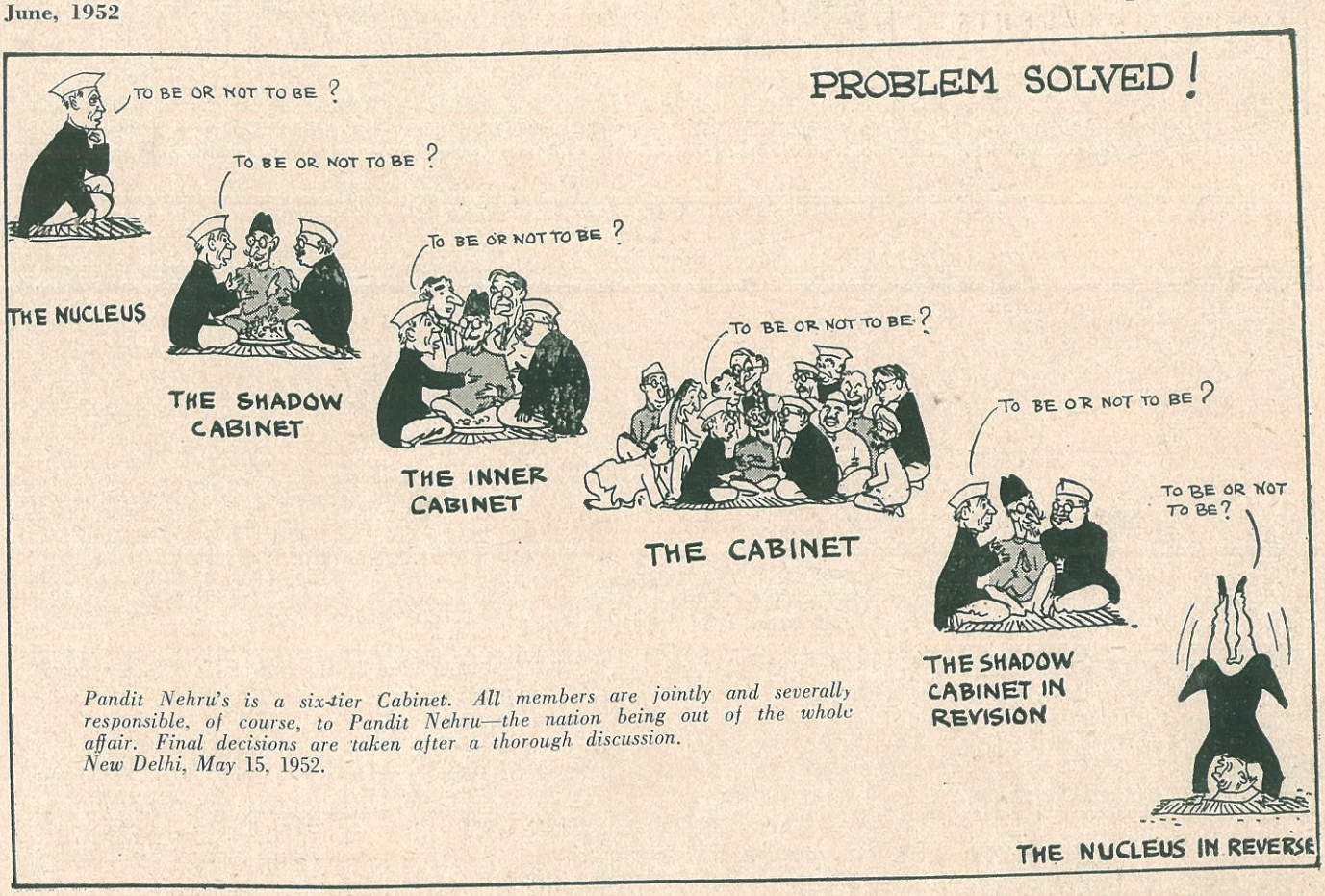
PROBLEM SOLVED!
TO BE OR NOT TO BE ?
THE NUCLEUS
TO BE OR NOT TO BE ?
THE SHADOW CABINET
TO BE OR NOT TO BE ?
THE INNER CABINET
TO BE OR NOT TO BE ?
THE CABINET
TO BE OR NOT TO BE ?
THE SHADOW CABINET IN REVISION
TO BE OR NOT TO BE?
THE NUCLEUS IN REVERSE

Pandit Nehru's is a six-tier Cabinet. All members are jointly and severally responsible, of course, to Pandit Nehru—the nation being out of the whole affair. Final decisions are taken after a thorough discussion.
New Delhi, May 15, 1952.

ed as a cottage industry. Even Morarji's limited imagination can grasp this truth.

The type of crime that is found in the Bombay City these days is not found in the villages for the very simple reason that there is no enforcement of the Prohibition Act by the few police constables sprinkled here and there and the villagers are at complete liberty to distil their own liquor without any interference from the guardians of law and order. The two policemen in the 100 square-mile area being wiser than their Home Minister are never unnecessarily anxious to make their wives widows or their children orphans by interfering with the village brewers who they know can never be effectively stopped from carrying their illegal trade. Some of these policemen are reported to be enjoying regular anti-retirement pensions paid by the brewers from week to week with which they provide their families with a few comforts and thus reconcile duty with conscience.

In short there is nothing like Prohibition in the villages of the Bombay State. On the other hand there is new prosperity among the Kunbis, the Adivasis, the Warlis and other poor people who refuse to work in the fields these days for legitimate wages and run their own illicit distilleries for greater profits. There is thus a terrific shortage of farm labour in all the agricultural areas of the Bombay State resulting in less and less food being grown from year to year. When an Adivasi can earn five rupees a day in an overnight manufacture of illicit brew why should he slave five twelve-hour days in the fields to earn five rupees? An Adivasi is not a Congress Minister to sacrifice money for public service nor is there any glamour in working in the sun for twelve hours for another. Prohibition has thus provided a very powerful incentive to the villagers to build up a very fine cottage industry in illicit distillation and that is the main reason why villagers in Bombay State solidly voted for the Congress in the last elections once they made sure of the continuance of Prohibition by scrutinizing the election manifesto of the Congress Party. Incidentally Morarji Desai is very popular with these village distillers who know his natural obstinacy and bless the day when this mule of our minister was born.

But the story in the towns and cities is different, particularly in the City of Bombay where Prohibition is being enforced more vigorously these days. In Bombay the enforcement of Prohibition is giving birth to new crime. Prohibition has so completely warped the human mind in the city that at the slightest provocation, the knife is pulled out and a human being murdered. For a year now we have been having a murder a day and recently the record has improved so much that we read of two and sometimes three murders a day.

The goondas are having a field-day in the city. Encouraged by easy profits which illicit distillation yields, the goondas have organized other crimes on new lines making life and property unsafe in the first city of India.

A wonderful transport system connecting distillation spots with distribution centres and a home-delivery service for consumers of illicit liquor have been orga-

B. SWINDER
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The Burning Story of Love That Will Haunt Your DREAMS

Directed by B. TRILOCHAN

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in

Ashiana

with
MOHANA ★ ROOP MALA
and
RANDHIR

Music MADAN MOHAN

Dances SACHIN SHANKER

Camera V. AVDHUT

Songs RAJINDER KRISHAN

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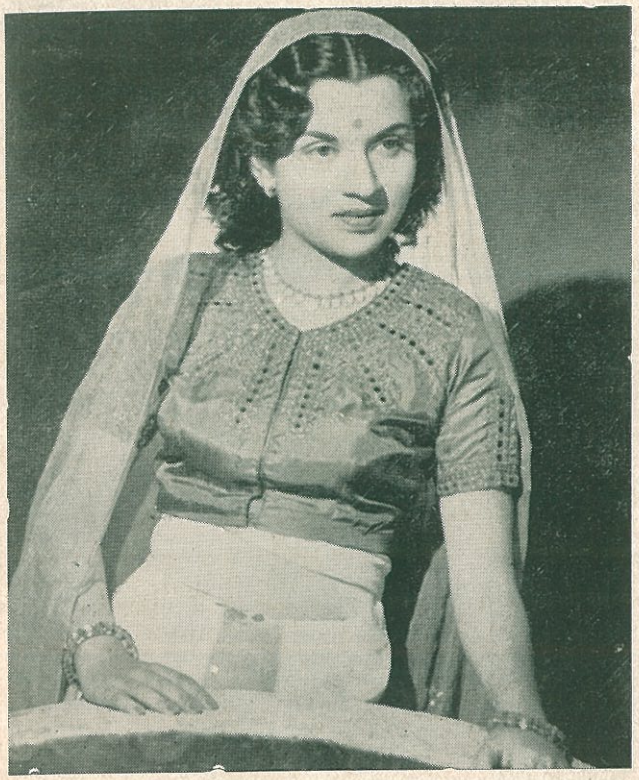


Vijaylakshmi is becoming more popular with the producers these days. Here she is in "Farmaish", a romantic story directed by B. K. Sagar and produced by J. Om Prakash for Majestic Films.

nized in the city and no drunkard is kept thirsty a minute longer than necessary whatever part of the city he may live if he has the money to pay.

If the Government of Bombay are proud of their Aarey Milk Colony and its milk distribution service, they may as well be proud of the transport and consumer-service organized by liquor distillers without government help or subsidy. For, the liquor distillers serve a much larger clientele than the government do every day.

The latest victims of this transport system are the unfortunate taxi drivers of Bombay. These poor people are sandwiched between the devil and the deep sea. Kicked around by the police and robbed and threatened by liquor gangsters, many of them have been callously murdered in cold blood in recent days. Life has been made impossible for the taxi drivers of Bombay and they cannot ply their trade in peace and safety. Sitting in front at the steering wheel and watching the road whilst driving, the taxi driver provides a perfect target for a knife in the back by a gangster. And not one murderer has yet been sent to the gallows, the section police having no interest in the dead body of a poor man.

Murders after murders have been committed in the city on one pretext or other and for most of these murders which have been directly or indirectly provoked by Prohibition, we hold only Chief Minister Morarji Desai responsible. On him must fall the curses of the widows and the orphans which every murder leaves behind because it is the stupid obstinacy of this one man that is responsible for so much crime and so many murders in the city.

In those provinces of India where there is no Prohibition, the type of crime that is found in Bombay is not heard of. The present crime wave in Bombay has little to do with the poverty of the people or their economic distress. These factors usually encourage a crop of thefts. But the passionate crime resulting in murder and bloodshed must be attributed only to Prohibition. And if this conclusion is accepted, Morarji Desai can not escape censure for his shortsighted policy of trying to manufacture a moral state in the crucible of prohibitive laws.

We don't wish to discuss the economics of Prohibition or audit the crores of rupees wasted in this social experiment because all that waste is already pinching our stomach and making it red. And when that colour will come to be written with a capital "R", we won't have to appeal to Bhais and Lalls of Congress politics. But in the meantime we appeal to our Chief Minister not to pursue his sadism in morality too far because a lot of human blood has already been spilled without doing any good to anyone.

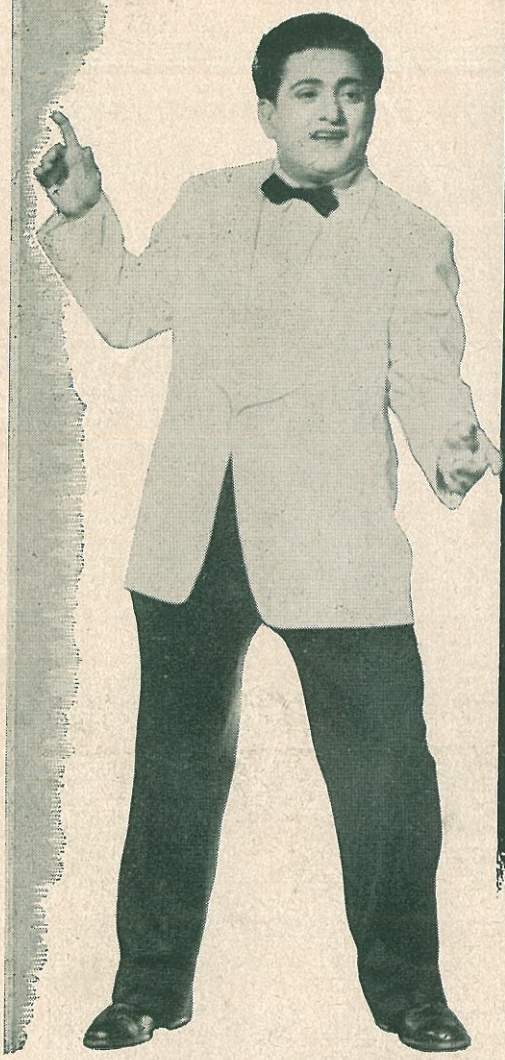
And we may assure Morarji that not a single man in Bombay has given up drinking because of Prohibition just as he has himself not relaxed his natural obstinacy in propagating his moral fads. Morarji must realize that human beings don't change their habits so easily and never under the pressure of law.

But the murders of innocent people demand that the man in charge of our State should stop and think over his moral obsession which is responsible for so much crime and misery in our state.

Baburao Patel.

When a man races with age, he likes to leave footprints behind. Here is Kishore Sahu's attempt to do so but Asha Mathur objects in "Hamari Duniya", a social theme directed by Sushil Sahu for Hindustan Chitra.

If music is the food of love, play on!



RANA BROTHERS

present

HULLA GULLA

Starring

GEETA BALI

★

BHAGWAN

and introducing

KUNWAR KESHO

Music

C. RAMCHANDRA

Produced by

R. JAGADISH

Story & Direction

BHAGWAN

Contact : **RANA BROTHERS,** 1, Bansilal Mansions, Opera House T. T., Bombay 4.

BOMBAY CALLING

This section is the monopoly of "JUDAS" and he writes what he likes and about things which he likes. The views expressed here are not necessarily ours, but still they carry weight because they are written by a man who knows his job.

HONEY-BEES OF THE WEST

When an American calls his wife "honey", few people know that he is trying to save money by rubbing the fur the right way. The glamorous, well-tailored, loquacious American woman is not an easy life companion to get along with. Last year American women drew male blood valued Rs. 3,08,00,00,000 (308 crores of rupees) in alimony from their divorced husbands, i.e. 73% of the total annual revenue of the Government of India.

Xavier Cugat, a popular bandleader, recently bought back his freedom from the woman he had married by paying her an alimony of over Rs. 7,50,000|- But this is nothing compared to Rs. 1,32,00,000 (a crore and thirty two lakhs) which a wealthy film magnate was directed to pay his divorced wife when the woman suddenly discovered that she couldn't stick the man any longer after more than 40 years of happy married life.

Another American woman wanted just a small sum of Rs. 1,20,000 per year as alimony to keep body and soul together. When the judge asked for particulars, some of the "absolutely essential" items included were: tips Rs. 1,700|-, daughter's entertainment Rs. 4,000|-, daughter's companion Rs. 3,500|-, clothes Rs. 15,000|- winter trip to Florida Rs. 13,000|-, summer house Rs. 10,000, miscellaneous Rs. 3,500|-.

Hollywood's matinee idol, Clarke Gable, came out only with a lucky scratch when he got rid of his latest bedroom model Lady Sylvia Ashley. Though Her Ladyship asked for fifty lakhs of rupees for her body and soul, the Court granted only ten lakhs of rupees spread over five years. Clarke, whose salary is in the region of Rs. 40,000|- per week, won't be very inconvenienced in paying off the British beauty and packing her off home.

Rita Hayworth, who married Ali Khan and whom she has now sued for divorce, demands a crore and a half of rupees from Ali Khan merely for the mistake of giving her a daughter. The mistake is called Yasmin. The repair charges for her own body and soul have not yet been estimated.

And it is not always that American husbands can pay these alimony amounts and when they can't or won't pay them, they are put in New York county jail which is affectionately named "Alimony Club" by the women. That deprives the alimony victims of the little fun they get outside after freedom and thus repairs their ex-wives' hurt sentiments to some extent.

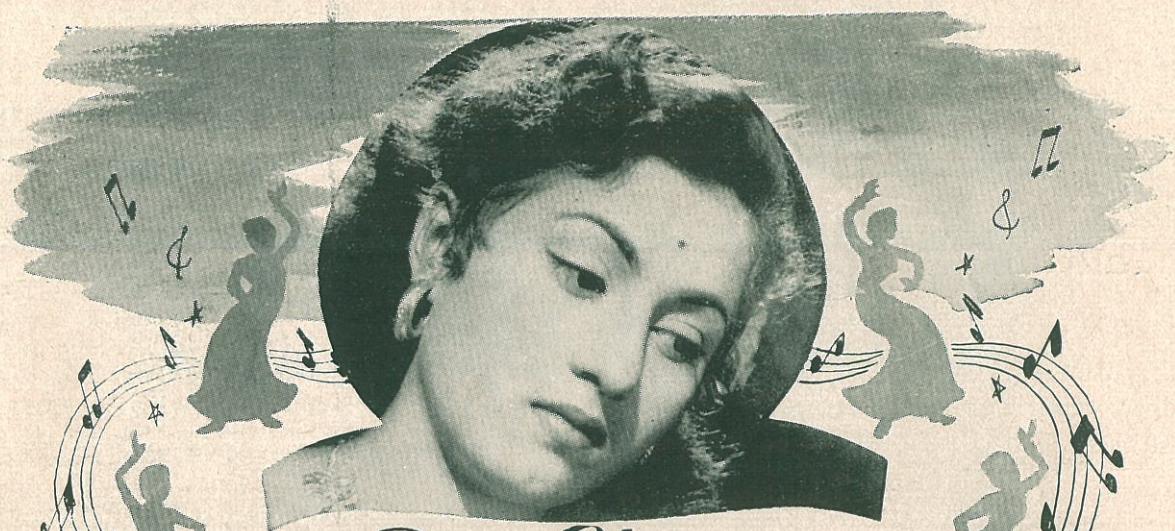
In comparison with the sky-scraping alimony bills paid in America, the British husbands pay only nine crores of rupees annually to their ex-companions. But then there is an acute shortage of husbands in Britain and when a British woman succeeds in trapping an unwary man, she likes to hold him as long as possible rather than let him escape to earn an alimony. The British woman has realized that it is more paying to keep the beggar in hand slaving all life rather than lose him and take a slice of his small cake in weekly doles.

Those Indians who nowadays rush to marry girls from the West, backed up by their parental fortunes, may do well to remember that the white-skinned, skirted dame is a game in which fools rush in where angels fear to tread.

MORARJI'S REGIME & REGIMEN

The other day a large cinema audience in Bombay was thrown into a panic when a big chunk of the ceiling plaster fell down bringing with it a blade of an overhead fan and some electric wiring. Luckily no one was hurt but quite a few got a bad nervous shock. A woman in a delicate condition had to be carried out and taken home with what tragic results no one knows.

Suraiya is putting more into her eyes and face these days than ever before. The girl is reported to have done well in "Mashuqa", a romantic chase produced by Chitrakar and directed by Shanti Kumar.

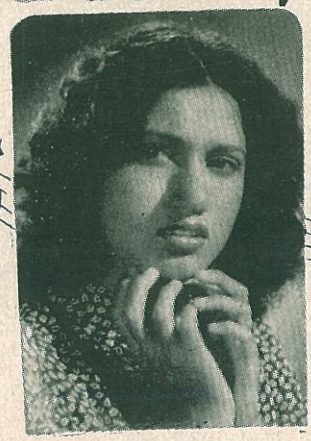


Devi Sharma
Presents
MADHUBALA • DEVANAND
in

KAMNA

With ULLHAS • CHANCHAL • MIRZA MUSHARAF
AND YASMIN

Produced & Directed by
DEVI SHARMA



Music: S.D. BURMAN • Photography: KEKI MISTRY • Story: ANNIE SHIVJI

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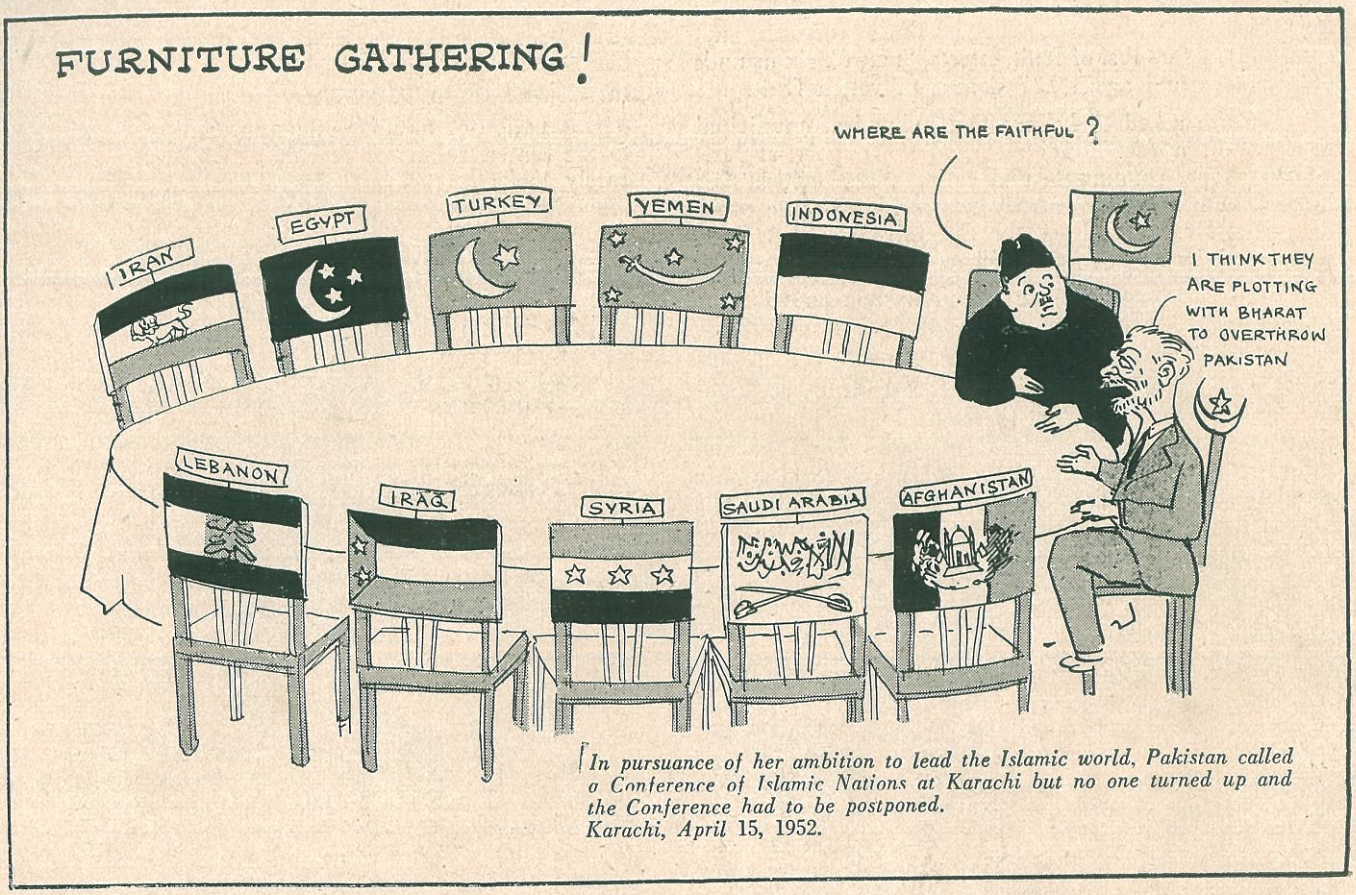


In pursuance of her ambition to lead the Islamic world, Pakistan called a Conference of Islamic Nations at Karachi but no one turned up and the Conference had to be postponed.
Karachi, April 15, 1952.

This little incident is a good enough warning that most of our city cinemas are in a very bad state of repairs. But our police and municipal authorities never take any notice of any warnings. They wake up only after big tragedies. They need dead bodies to remind them of their responsibilities to the citizens of this great city.

We have been writing for years pointing out the rotten state of some of our popular cinema houses. Not only dangerous to the health of the public due to their bad hygiene and ventilation, some of these cinemas are so old that they are structurally dangerous to human life. But after every protest of ours, the cinema owners have somehow managed to get round the police and municipal authorities, of course by the usual methods, and instead of carrying out substantial structural repairs, the matters were hushed by a new coat of paint to the old walls—as if a coat of oil paint added strength to a rotten crumbling structure.

This convenient conspiracy between the cinema owners and the authorities has been mainly responsible for the dangerous state in which some of our cinema theatres are found today inspite of the strict and moral regime of no less a person than Morarji Desai who gives a sermon both to the police and the people every day with no one listening.

It is obvious that there is something wrong with both the regime and its regimen, the way cinema ceilings have now started throwing chunks at the audience.

Things in Calcutta are, however, different. In that second city of India, they have a wide-awake Home Secretary, Mr. R. Gupta I.C.S., and a conscientious Chief of the Fire Brigade, Mr. Scott, not to mention Mr. P. K. Sen, the Deputy Commissioner of Police.

These officers have straightaway cancelled the licenses of four city cinema houses: the Intally Talkies, Moonlight, Deepak and Rupam, because these houses did not come up to the standards of fitness prescribed by the Government of Bengal. And they have given short notices to all other cinemas with some defect or other to put things right within a stipulated time on pain of losing their licenses. And for the first time in 50 years quite a few cinemas in Calcutta are being seriously repaired, not merely repainted.

If the proverbially lazy Bengalis can do this, we wonder what is wrong with the caucus of Gujarati administrators in Bombay, unless, of course, it is good business to keep things going as they are till we find a couple of hundred dead bodies buried below the debris of an old show house?

JOB FOR OUR MUNICIPAL GANPATI!

Because a dozen persons who had consumed sweetmeats were taken suddenly ill and because one of them happened to be a police officer, the Public Health Department of the Bombay Municipality suddenly woke up and sent Dr. V. V. Puri, the Executive Health Officer, raiding shops and restaurants, detecting and destroying putrid and unwholesome food exposed to flies and dust.

Twenty raiding units of five men each went into action from Colaba to Sion and are reported to have raided every shop within a few hours, destroying large

quantities of milk and milk products (quantity not specified), 2,000 lbs. of fruit, sweets, "mava", six maunds of tomatoes and again 137 dozens of rotten fruit.

We are asked to believe that a hundred municipal men within a few hours searched thoroughly at least 20,000 shops, restaurants and eating places within this large area which feeds nearly two million people every day. Let Dr. V. V. Puri, the Executive Health Officer, who supervised these raids, tell us another.

These spasmodic raids which harmonize with the spasms of the conscience of the authorities only after death strikes some citizens, won't solve the problem of providing clean, wholesome food to the people.

The tragic fact is that the Municipality has not yet prescribed any strict standards of quality in food and eatables, nor described strictly the minimum hygienic standards to be maintained by restaurants and eating houses in Bombay.

In America all hotels and restaurants are subject to strict rules of public health and hygiene. While food is kept in glass covers all the while, the shop itself has a glass frontage preventing any street dust from going in. The crockery is washed clean and disinfected with hot vapour every time it is used for a new customer. Raw fruit, vegetables, cereals etc are compulsorily cleaned in a weak solution of potassium permanganate before they are used for different preparations. Fat and oils used in cooking are required to be certified by the State Bureau of Standards in the matter of purity and quality. Even the milk cartons and bottles have dates printed on them after which dates they are not to be sold by the stores or served by the restaurants. The city authorities maintain a huge inspection staff who pay at least one visit a day to a restaurant and see whether the kitchen is clean and hygienic apart from the raw material used for cooking—being in good condition. These officers enjoy arbitrary powers of seizing and destroying bad stuff and fining the restaurant keeper on the spot. Repeated lapses are reported to the higher authorities and the license of the restaurant keeper is often revoked, and he is either fined or jailed. The Americans are very strict about what they eat and they don't fool with their food.

On the other hand look at Bombay, the first city in India! Right in the shadow of the Bombay Municipality and under the nose of its Health Officer, there are at least fifty Sindhi shops on the Esplanade Maidan. These eating shops are accommodated in refugee huts where dirty-looking, constantly sweating, bare-bodied Sindhi men keep frying some stuff and flavouring it with the dust of the road, serve it to their customers in hundreds.

If Dr. V. V. Puri can not see this daily murder right under his nose, where is the damn sense in staging a seasonal demonstration of raiding a few shops like a hurricane?

What we need immediately is a municipal code of standards prescribing minimum safety standards in food and restaurant hygiene with very dire penalties without which these raiding exercises can not be fully effective.

This a problem for our new Ganpati, the Mayor, If he does only this much, he will have done more than his share.

PORTRAIT OF A PIONEER

A nation of millions of hero-worshippers, who rush to the sea sands and river banks to hear Pandit Nehru, rarely looks at the rest of the world which also contains little heroes in different fields of life. And the community of these little heroes is more responsible for the progress of a nation and its people than the glorified figureheads who bask in the limelight of politics and demand a patriot's homage every time they open their mouth or twist a muscle.

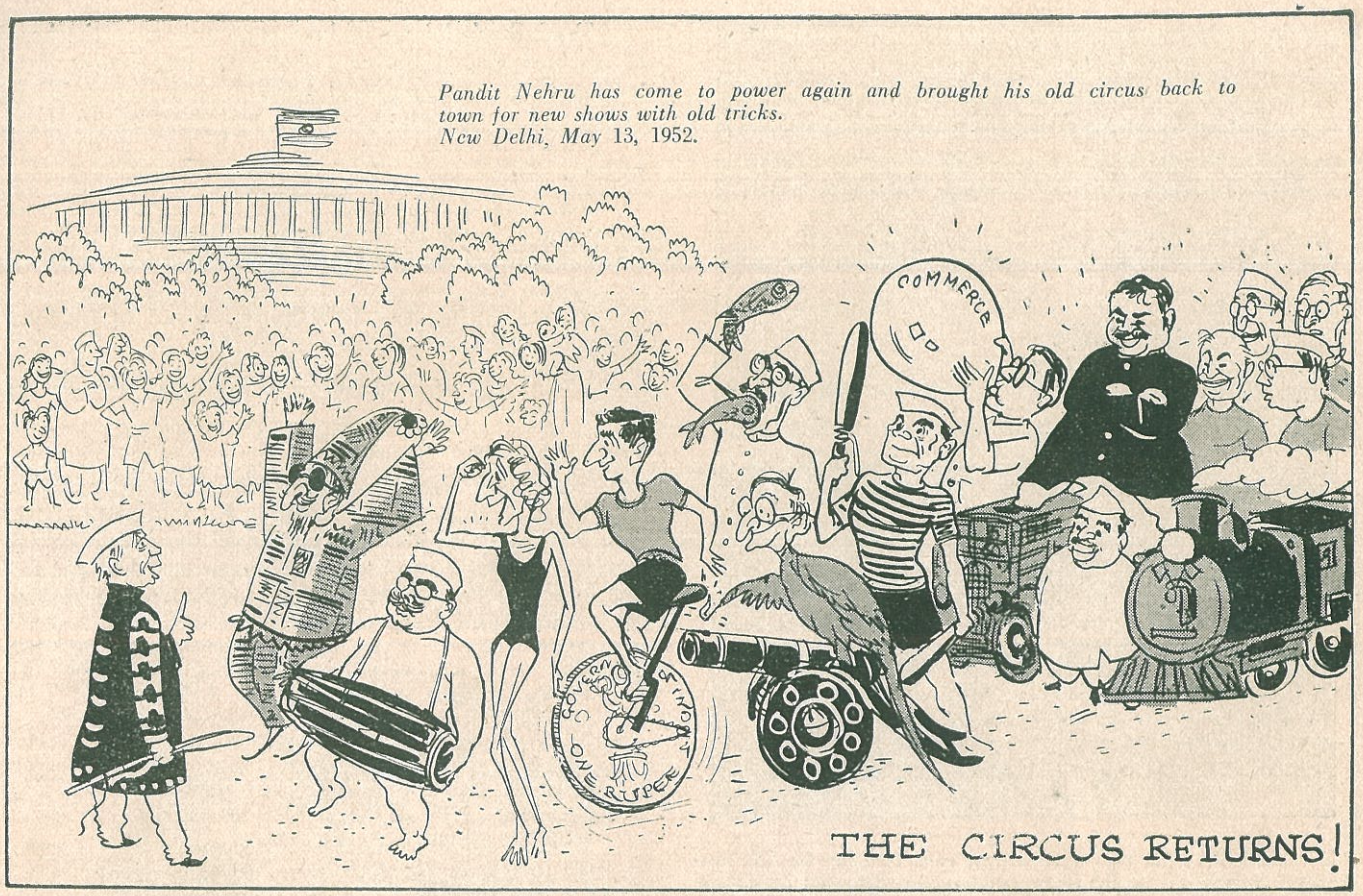
Jagannath Patel of International Talkie Equipment Company belongs to this community of pioneers in our country. It is true that like other industrialists Jagannath also works for profit but it is not Jagannath's profit that interests us, it is the purpose he has set himself in life.

Way back in 1934, when Jagannath Patel, then a small man in worldly possessions, expressed his anxiety over the ignorance of our masses and wondered how our inert millions could be woken up and taught to keep pace with the rest of the world, no one expected that within a year Jagannath would harness the medium of the screen to lend purpose to his plans.

"To teach four hundred million people the arts of reading and writing and educate them to lead a more useful social life would take a hundred years. The printed word is all right in the cities but what about the 700,000 villages which constitute the real India? Millions living in these villages must be given visual education. What they see, they believe and remember, said Jagannath Patel.

Those were different days when the movie business was mainly concentrated in the cities of India and the equipment to take the movies to the villages was too expensive for the business to be economically paying.

In Stuttgart, Herr Paul Bauer, Mg. Director of Eugene Bauer (left) and Jagannath Patel (right). Jagannath also looks another German.



Pandit Nehru has come to power again and brought his old circus back to town for new shows with old tricks.
New Delhi, May 13, 1952.

But Jagannath Patel was not a man to be beaten so easily. He put his prestige as an export-import expert to a pioneering test and induced Messrs Eugene Bauer of Germany to manufacture a talkie projector that would not strain the purse and pocket of small village exhibitors.

Within two years Jagannath installed what he called "the poor man's Bauer" in over a hundred villages and for the first time in their lives millions of illiterate villagers saw their mythological stories enacted on the screen. The infection spread and we have today over 3000 cinemas spread all over India—some in the most distant corners of the country.

It was the idea of one man that enlarged itself through years and covered a nation with the result that millions today are in constant contact with the latest news and events of the world. It was an idea that paid profits not only to Jagannath Patel but to many others in his trade but we are not concerned with the profits—the purpose being more important. And the purpose was to educate millions through visual aid. And for that we salute Jagannath Patel, whose missionary zeal is not less praiseworthy than the much-vaunted sincerity and patriotism of Pandit Nehru.

Very recently Jagannath returned from Europe after fresh consultations with the Bosch Organization which manufactures Bauer products. "This is a poor country," said Jagannath on return, "I had been to Europe to get an equipment that will cost less, perform better and have no repairs. For our population we must have 10,000 cinemas and once we reach that target we shall achieve what the politicians have failed to do".

That man has a vision which will make his dream come true one day. But Jagannath is an artist in his line. While he wants to service the villages with something within their reach, he sells rare quality to the cities in his Klangfilm Sound System. We had an opportunity to test this equipment in Rashtrapati Bhuwan, New Delhi, where it is fitted for the use of the President. It seemed to make even the food debate sound sweetly reasonably.

But to those who are denied the opportunity of visiting Rashtrapati Bhuwan, we suggest visiting the "Liberty" in Bombay, where the Klangfilm Sound System is in use. Easily the best show-house in the country, "Liberty" certainly deserves the best in sound reproduction but discriminating filmgoers would do well to study the difference between good and bad sound reproduction to realize the value they get for their money.

That is where a pioneer like Jagannath Patel is worth his weight in gold to a free nation—a man aiming for luxury in the cities but not oblivious of economy in the villages.

"MAHATMA" HEIRLOOM TO POSTERITY

The second and third volumes of "Mahatma", that classical work of Mr. D. G. Tendulkar, are now out on the bookstalls. The second volume covers a period of nine years from August 1920 to May 1929 while the third volume takes us right up to 17th September 1934, the day on which Gandhiji issued a statement giving his reasons for retiring from the Congress.

Kamlesh Kumari has a touching role to play in "Jalianwalla Baagh", a social story written and directed by Chowdhari and produced by Famous Pictures.

The reasons, ofcourse, were very cogent but that does not mean that Gandhiji retired from the Congress or from anything else in the world till Godse compelled him to do so. A dynamic man of action, in sharp contrast with Nehru who is a dynamic man of words, Gandhiji was too restless a soul to retire and rust. His retirement from the Congress was but a gesture of blushing modesty for he still continued to dominate the Congress even with greater vehemence than before.

And how many things this unique man did in his life-time could never be grasped in the din and confusion of our freedom's battle with Gandhiji himself piling up new events from day to day. He kept the nation on the tiptoes of new history and neither rested himself nor allowed any one else to rest.

But now that he is dead and gone and therefore unable to interfere with Tendulkar's biographical project, Tendulkar unfolds to us a story that takes our breath away. It is hardly necessary to state here that a better book than "Mahatma" has not been written yet and it may be safely predicted that a better book on Gandhiji will never be written in future. Tendulkar's labour on Gandhiji's biography is itself an eloquent monument of the immortal hero of his classical work.

Punctuated by 274 photographs, many of rare historical value, the two new volumes of "Mahatma"—the second and the third—cover undying events like Chauri Chaura, the Death of C. R. Das, Surgical Operation on Gandhiji while in jail, His Year of Silence, the Dandi March, the Karachi Congress, the Round Table Conference, etc.

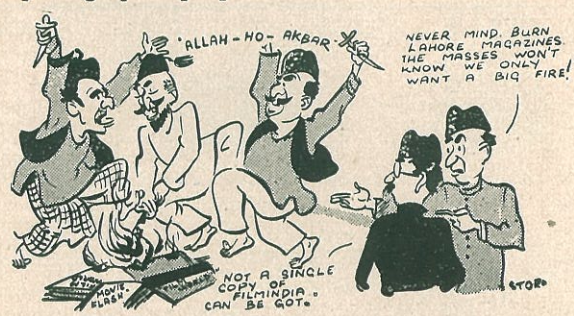
Tendulkar's labour of love is as unique as the hero of his book and if Indian Universities can shower Doctorates on passing political leaders, they can certainly award one more doctorate, really well deserved, to D. G. Tendulkar, because never again will such a book be written.

Tendulkar's "Mahatma" is a rare heirloom to posterity and it is the sacred duty of the elders of today to leave behind as many copies of this classical work as possible so that the generations to come may not have to excavate the shallow beds of Sabarmati to discover mementoes of the Gandhian era.

"Mahatma" is a complete portrait of Gandhiji in paper and ink.

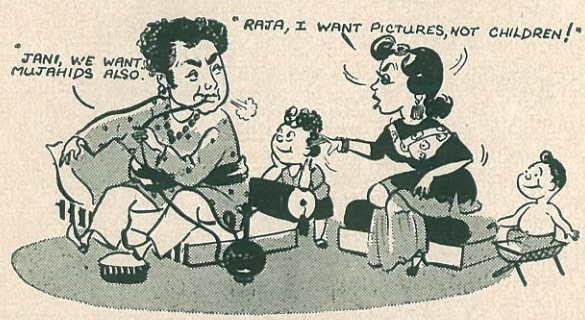
YOU'LL HARDLY BELIEVE

That State Ministers of Pakistan attended an open air bonfire of copies of Filmindia in Karachi and Lahore. And because those who had purchased the March copies would not part with them, the organizers had to collect local film magazines to make an impressive bonfire for photographic purposes.

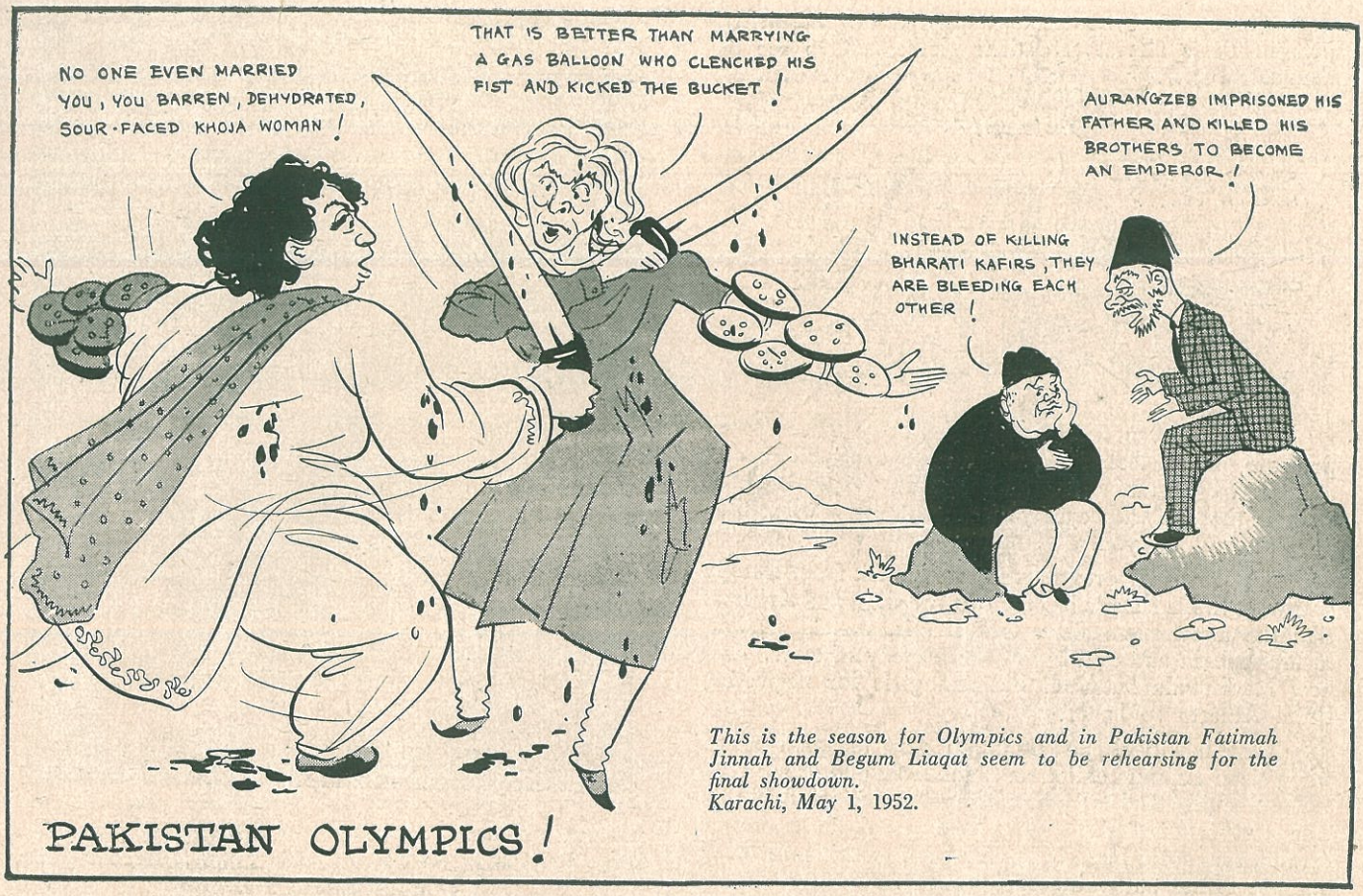

"ALLAH-HO-AKBAR"
NEVER MIND. BURN LAHORE MAGAZINES THE MASSES WON'T KNOW WE ONLY WANT A BIG FIRE!"
NOT A SINGLE COPY OF FILMINDIA CAN BE GOT.

That after the bonfire in Lahore, local film producers went straight to Hira Mandi and drank and discussed with their fair favourites the prospects of printing their colour plates in the next issue of "filmindia". This seems to be the major temptation which pulls out these Hira Mandi girls for moonlight drives with Pakistan's film producers.

That Pakistan's film producers have made Hira Mandi the Hollywood of Pakistan where studios are accommodated in little bed rooms and heroines of imaginary productions are given constant rehearsals of love scenes between the studio hours of 9 P.M. and 2 A.M. Whether pictures are produced or not by this method, at least the population of Pakistan is fast increasing. Zahur Raja alone is reported to have been responsible for seven such "productions".



That Zahur Raja, who had called his "wife" Radha Rani a Hindu and had said that Pakistan did not like


NO ONE EVEN MARRIED YOU, YOU BARREN, DEHYDRATED, SOUR-FACED KHOJA WOMAN!
THAT IS BETTER THAN MARRYING A GAS BALLOON WHO CLENCHED HIS FIST AND KICKED THE BUCKET!
AURANGZEB IMPRISONED HIS FATHER AND KILLED HIS BROTHERS TO BECOME AN EMPEROR!
INSTEAD OF KILLING BHARATI KAFIRS, THEY ARE BLEEDING EACH OTHER!
PAKISTAN OLYMPICS!

This is the season for Olympics and in Pakistan Fatimah Jinnah and Begum Liaqat seem to be rehearsing for the final showdown.
Karachi, May 1, 1952.

him because of his "Hindu wife"—all this to live in India, is now producing a picture called "Qatle-Aam", an anti-Indian theme, featuring his "Hindu wife", Radha Rani. Let us hope the picture gets ready before Zahur's compatriots actually begin the general slaughter. And this man had fooled not only Producer Kardar, our great patriot, but also Ajit Prasad Jain, our Minister for Rehabilitation and for twelve long months that he managed to be in India.

That Sadoba Patil, our Man from Malwan, is once again threatening to go to Hollywood—this time to induce some one to produce a biography of Sardar Patel in Technicolor. As Sardar's chief henchman, our Man from Malwan will also get a big role and become immortal. We like the plan and hope the picture is named "Lion of Bardoli" and Sadoba takes Kumar to play the Sardar.

"SARDAR PATEL DID NOT SPEAK. YOU WHISPER IN MY EAR AND I SHALL SPEAK."
YOU WILL SPEAK NONSENSE! I HAVE LUCKNAWI ACCENT I MUST SPEAK!

That Journalist Attaullah Shah Hashmi of Lahore thinks that Editor Baburao Patel has cancelled his permit and stopped him from coming to India—as if Baburao Patel is in charge of permits. This pen comrade of ours should know that the name Attaullah, be it that of a parent of a star or of a Pakistani editor, has only one malefic star beginning with a capital "S". If Hashmi will remember the man whom he tried to blackmail, the mystery of his suspended permit would be solved.

That Chandulal Shah, who tried his level best to chase out the South Indian producers from the Hindustani market, now says that Bombay producers intend to produce pictures in Tamil and Telugu to provide a "healthy" competition to the South Indian producers. Surely, not with his "Horse Brand" pictures which don't even take a start? Chandulal is fast becoming "deep-lowmetic"!

That after their all-India survey of girls resulting in Producer Asif and his Johnny Dilip getting conjunctivitis, Asif has at last taken Nutan, our bony bundle, to play Anarkali in "Mughal-e-Azam" We had said that these boys were out for fun and fooling.

That the numerous society girls whom these guys had eyed, scanned and scrutinized, from top to toes, only to fall back upon an indigenous product, have now good grounds to be sore with Dilip Roberto whose glamour had brought out even the kitchen maids dressed as Cindrellas. Next time mothers think of sending their 'chicks' out to meet glamour boys in city hotels, they should remember this.

That during their recent trip to Europe, Prem Alberto and Dilip Roberto shocked foreigners with the

black fur on their bodies and quite a few inquisitive girls in Paris almost tore their clothes off to see the mammals better.

That to prevent being bald on his body under French pressure, Dilip Roberto rushed back to Bombay and straight to Chembur for dinner with Vijayalakshmi. That is the one with eyes you can not resist when they are focussed on you.

That Prem Alberto returned home-sick from Europe and wept in his sister's lap for two full days and Krishna, like the affectionate sister that she is, rushed straight to Madhubala and told her of the tragedy of tears. And now Madhubala hates all Parisian girls for neglecting Prem Alberto so badly.

That luckily Papa Attaullah was in good mood when sister Krishna called on Madhubala and drank both tea and smiles and talked of plans—present and future. The last sister, Dilip's, who had gone on a similar errand, found old Papa in the throes of gastritis throwing out hot fumes and indigestible words.

That Nargis is once again reported to be suffering from her annual indisposition. Working on an empty stomach every day does cause nausea and vomiting. The girl needs a holiday very badly and we suggest her taking a trip to Calcutta, like Meena, to consult a good homeopath.

That Raj Kapoor who makes Nargis work the hardest for his marathon productions has now sworn to look after her by cutting down her production work and giving her more rest at home. Let us hope he succeeds.

That as Raj can not make Nargis dance in her present condition, he is looking out for a teenage dancer for his new picture "Ajanta". He wants a perfect figure, with classic features and deer-like eyes, lotus lips and dancing feet. And should she also know the art of kissing the hero's feet?

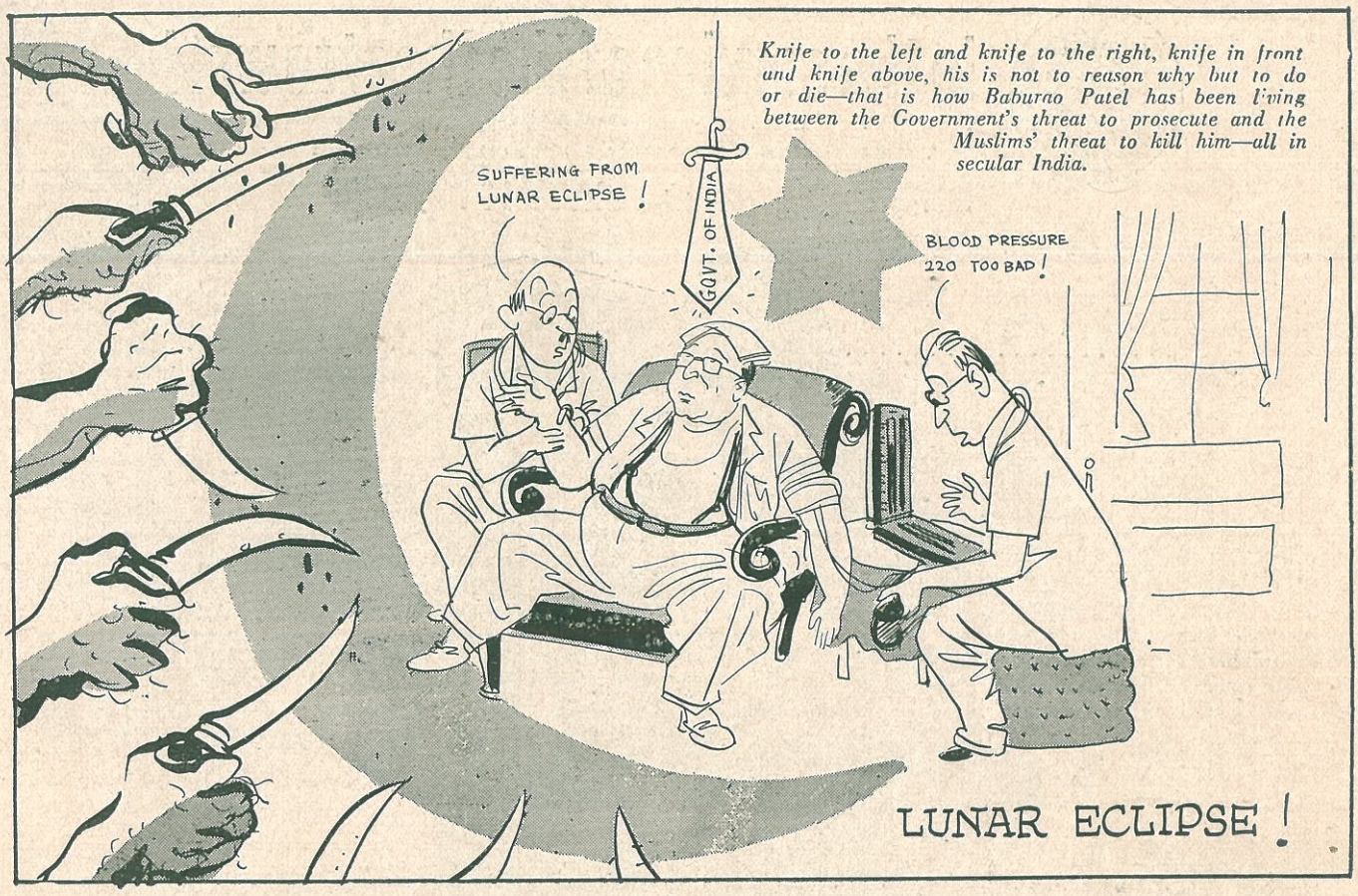
That having blackmailed all living creatures on earth, some journalists are now interviewing dead actors

A stout girl needs a stout chain to hold her. Santoshi keeps Rehana in control in "Shin Shinaki Boobla Boo", a fast entertainer.

in "heaven" and in doing so spreading the stink of some mock sentimentalism. Why can't they respect their memory by letting the dead rest in peace?

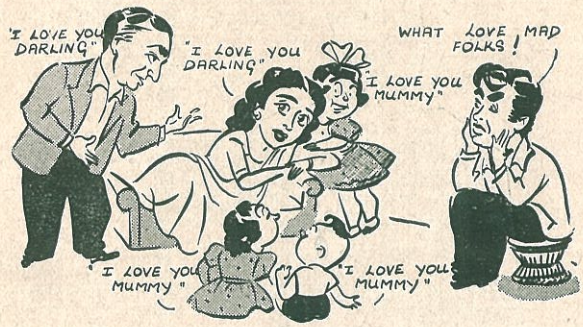
That quite a few clubs in Bombay invite film stars these days to collect funds for some cause or other and get the stars so drunk that at a recent function a couple of them had to be carried home horizontally. And Morarji Desai swears that Prohibition is a success. If he only visits some of these "charity" functions, he would know that many clubs have cellars bigger than some Port Trust godowns.

That Shekhar, one of our talented actors, is a bit unlucky in his romantic attachment. Every time he goes out with his girl-friend, the girl insists on taking mummy with her. And people can't understand why this mummy should spoil Shekhar's fun, seeing that the boy works hard for his living.



Knife to the left and knife to the right, knife in front and knife above, his is not to reason why but to do or die—that is how Baburao Patel has been living between the Government's threat to prosecute and the Muslims' threat to kill him—all in secular India.

That Kamini Kaushal announces as follows: "I love my husband and my children and they love me and I am happy and secure in that knowledge" But who asked for this underlined assurance? It should be normally that way. Even Dilip will admit that.



That Protima Dasgupta (that is the name of our female director) is producing colour shorts of popular star couples on and off the screen in colour. We don't know what colours she will capture but then their first star couple in the series should be the Para-Protima pair. That combination will of course require a running commentary.

That the story of Begum Para having donated blood while in jail is now reported to have been just a fairy tale. People say that some one else gave the blood and Para got the benefit of it. It is high time Morarji found out whether his jail boys are also glamour struck.

That Errol Flynn is again coming to India—this time for a short holiday. The news has created a lot of excitement among the air-hostesses, some of whom took dear Errol flying straight to heaven last time. The only snag is that Errol will be accompanied by his wife Patricia Wymore.

That Ganju (that is the name of the P.R.O. of the Films Division) is seen these days constantly slowing and speeding in his new car on the Marine Drive. That is a strange way of driving a car or does the boy take every frock and sari for a traffic signal?

That film actresses have doubles who act as standins and allow the stars to mooch with their opposite numbers. The doubles of Nargis and Nirupa are well known in the film circles, particularly Mrinal who doubles for Nirupa. Director Nanabhai Bhatt pinched himself twice when he saw Mrinal with Nirupa and

in the service of the theatre world

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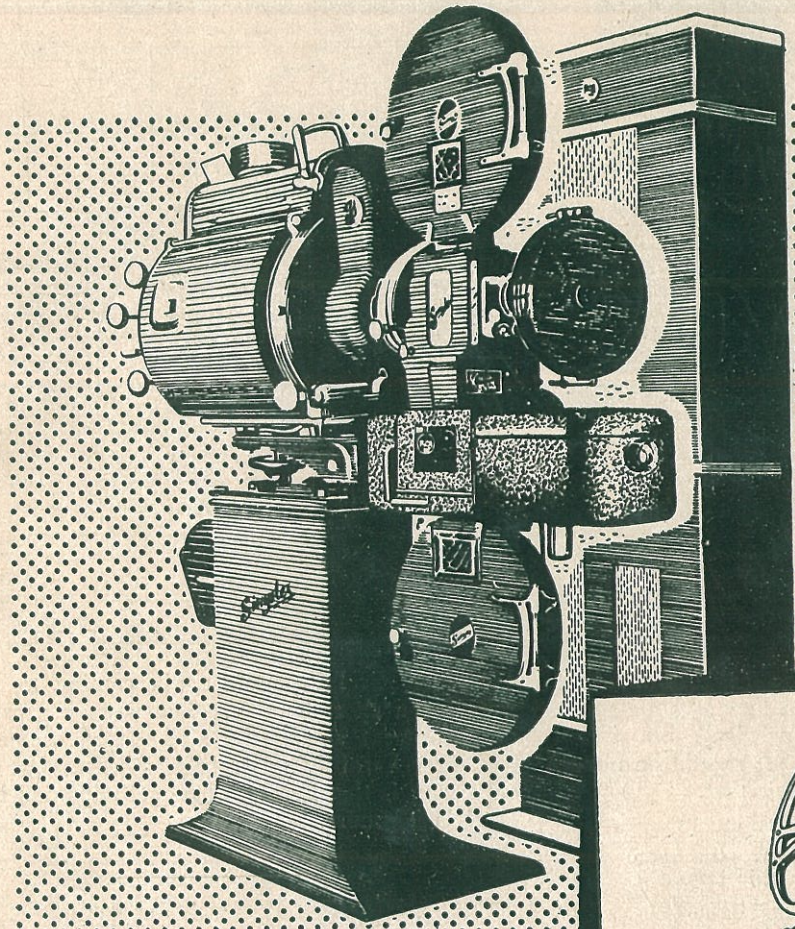

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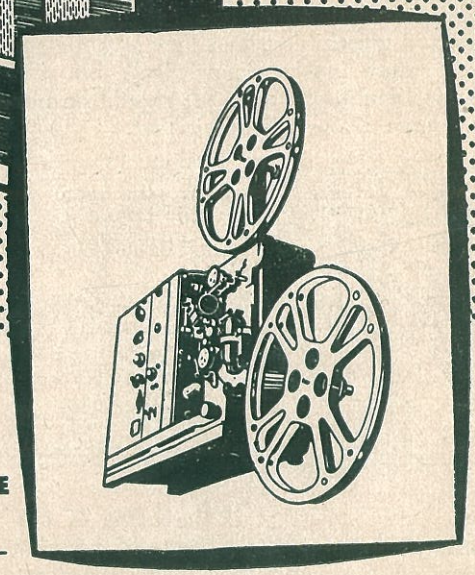

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That is not a maund of butter but soft, fair and plump Nirupa Roy. But then Trilok Kapur is feeling the pulse in the wrong place in "Rajrani Damayanti", a spectacular picture directed by Raja Nene for Rup Kamal Chitra.

made sure which was which. Let us hope that at least Director Jayant Desai doesn't make a mistake.

That Asha Mathur, Sahu's Sikh discovery of 1951, no longer complains of Kishore Sahu being a sadist. Reason: she is cast as a heroine in Sahu's new picture "Hamari Duniya". She doesn't mind being illtreated now by Kishore Sahu who is playing the villain in the story.

That film actors and actresses observed a day of mourning when Maharaj Singh, the Governor of Bombay, retired. They will miss him rather badly because it will be difficult to get another clown like that again.

That the IMPPA (that is the Producers' Paradise) spends more time in petty squabbles than in doing something useful for the film industry. Recently the Desais —Chhotu and Jayant—tested their strength against the Vankudres—Shantaram and Kashinath-over the title of "Shiv Shakti" and proved that a count of fools can be safely begun in the IMPPA right down from its President.

That Virendra Desai, popularly known as V.D. in the film industry, is reported to have at last put his foot down and forbidden his wife, Nalini Jaywant, to play any role opposite Ashok Kumar. That is just like Rummy Sood, Kamini Kaushal's husband, warning off Dilip Kumar.

That film actress Usha Kiran gave a grand birthday party to one and all at some Chembur studio and thus introduced herself to all the producers. That was, ofcourse, nothing new to Director Amiya Chakravarty. He was present when Usha Kiran was born.

That having entertained all and sundry patients in the Pratap Nursing Home, midget Snehaprabha Pradhan has now shifted her camp to the West End Hotel where she entertains all guests and boarders. That is a great girl for bringing some cheer into life.

That film actress Suraiya is reported to be flying to Hollywood at last to get that guy, Gregory Peck. Now Gregory will know how dangerous it is to excite an Oriental.

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Giddy

Editor's Mail

(In this section, the editor himself replies to queries from the readers. As thousands of letters are received every month—some anxious and several frivolous—it is neither possible nor convenient to attend to all. Selected letters are usually treated in an informative and humorous strain and no offence is meant to anyone.)

E. V. RAMA RAO (Penumadam)

What will happen if God comes to Delhi?

He will be picked up under the Preventive Detention Act and put inside the Birla Mandir.

S. C. JAIN (Lucknow)

Are these beauty contests designed to insult womanhood or respect it?

To expose it! For the rest you must ask the men to whom these women belong. This is a country where we had the great war of the Mahabharat because someone wanted to strip someone else's woman. Nowadays men seem to send their own wives for public stripping.

MURLI M. MITAL (Aligarh)

Is Britain sincere towards India?

With Churchill in power? That man remembers Gandhi as a Hindu dacoit who robbed the brightest jewel from the British Crown and he would like to drown all the Hindus in the English Channel.

PROF. K. S. S. SHARMA (Nagpur)

Don't think me to be crazy, Mr. Patel, but my greatest wish is to become a leech and suck the blood of a capitalist till he becomes as pale as death.

And what do you propose to do with the blood you suck?

JAGDISH JAIN (Hapur)

What is this Ku Klux Klan in America?

That is a club of anglers who fish for Negroes.

What do you do when people laugh at you?

I laugh back and they get hurt. What a funny world, even in laughing they demand one-way traffic!

PIJUSH KANTI PAUL (Malacca, Malaya)

The first time I find kissing in "Hulchul"!

You did, eh? Which means that you have a wrong copy in Malacca. I didn't know Dilip and Nargis had actually done it.

A. N. NARAYANA RAO (Mysore)

What embarrasses confirmed spinsters?

A milkman misusing the wayside.

What's a rush wedding?

A ceremony for legalizing expectant motherhood.

Rajaji has compared himself to a worn-out broom used to clean clogged drains. Any comments?

Rajaji always takes the words out of our mouth and deprives us of the pleasure of describing him. That is foxy diplomacy.

Have you had experience of Negro hospitality?

I don't go around creating experiences, like Ahmed Abbas, for propaganda purposes.

N. G. Iyengar says, "I would like to see the day

Nargis gives a memorable performance in "Amber" a spectacular story produced by Jagat Pictures and directed by Jayant Desai.

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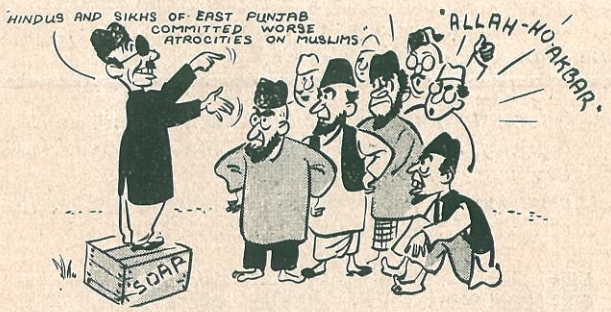
when every citizen would make it a part of his education to go to Kashmir and spend some time there"?

That is not necessary now. We can hear Professor Sheikh Abdullah lecturing without going to Kashmir. It is education without travelling expense.



RAM SAROOP GUPTA (Kangra)

Can any filmindia reader be richer than you?

Sir Sri Ram, a multimillionaire of Delhi, is worth over a crore of rupees. These days he is also making cup and kettlefuls of money in his new enterprise, the Bengal Potteries Ltd. He says that tea tastes better if drunk from his cups. The old Bania!

Can you make a refugee weep?

It will be cruel to insult a man who watered his way to this country with tears of blood. Let us all help to bring a smile into his eyes. For, is he not of our own flesh and blood?

C. R. RAMANATHAN (Madura)

What will be the fate of Kashmir?

When the prize cake is ultimately cut, Abdullah won't be there.

MRS. SEELWANTI M. DEVNANI (New Delhi)

What do you think of ballroom dancing in India?

It is an elegant exercise at home—in the arms of your own husband. Anywhere else and in any other arms, it is just a Western vice.

T. C. MOTWANI (Poona)

What is the Nizam's place in the new regime of Hyderabad Deccan?

He is a five-year boarder. Accommodation for him will be difficult after that period.

KUMARI LALITA (Vizianagaram)

A graduate friend of mine was asked to read aloud a passage from a seventh standard text book by her prospective husband. What does the fellow mean by that?

That was a subtle hint of his own limitations. If your friend had brains she would have understood the significance of the test by a polite and practical man. But your friend was merely a graduate.

D. LUTCHMUN (Kabrit, Egypt)

Why don't you try to discover a hidden treasure wise as you are?

Work hard and look up. That is an old key to the world's treasure.

"Measure it if you like," says Kamini Kaushal in "Jhanjar", a social story produced by C. Ramachandra and directed by Kidar Sharma.

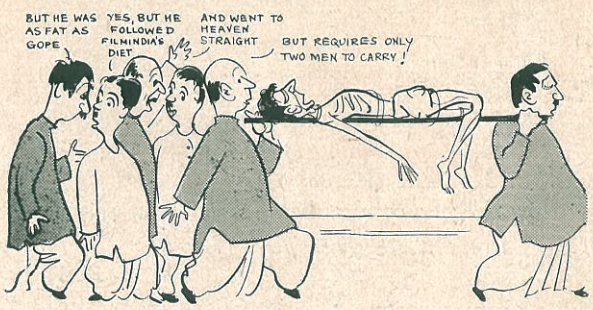
H. S. MANOHAR (Bombay)

What have Sindhis brought to Bombay?

Shoulders for pushing and brains for competition! And count the buildings they have built in the last 5 years with these assets.

Suggest some remedy for reducing fat?

Miss seven meals a week and during the remaining seven don't eat rice, potatoes, sweets and fried things. Cut down your salt intake also and wait for the miracle.


BUT HE WAS AS FAT AS GOPE
YES, BUT HE FOLLOWED FILMINDIA'S DIET
AND WENT TO HEAVEN STRAIGHT
BUT REQUIRES ONLY TWO MEN TO CARRY!

JASOTI C. MOORJANI (Poona)

I want to live like a princess!

Not like one of those Saurashtra princesses who are going to jail these days?

T. D. RAMACHANDRAN (Nellore)

Does Prithviraj deserve his nomination to the Council of States by the President?

Sajjan and Kamini Kaushal make a new team in "Poonam", a social story of Kayarts produced by P. N. Arora and directed by M. Sadiq.

Prithvi is better than at least 400 M.P.'s elected in the recent elections. And he is the only one in India who can compete with Pandit Nehru in wandering whilst talking. Let Prithvi get going and he will be soon addressing either an empty house or a sleeping one.

MISS PONS ANIAH (Mercara)

How do you combat heat, sir? I do pity you.

Don't waste your pity. My house is air conditioned.

KISHU BUTANEY (Bombay)

After Sardar's departure who guides Pandit Nehru?

After the Mahatma came the Maulana! The Sardar never bothered about Nehru.

S. Z. EDROOS (Bombay)

Is Sheikh Abdullah honest?

Yes, these days! And he is becoming more and more honest from day to day.

GOPAL CHANDRA BANERJEE (Calcutta)

Don't the modern girls shriek?

They relax.

What is the idea behind Pan Islamic unity?

Conquest and conversion of the world!

What happens to you at times when you trumpet your high style of living?

Don't believe all that I write about myself. I belong to an industry in which people build a big city in a small studio. We are people who live more in imagination than in reality. Do you deny me the privilege even to imagine a high style of living, leave alone living it?

"AWFUL! WHERE IS YOUR FRENCH COOK?"
FRENCH COOK?
"AH, THE FRENCH COOK! HE IS IN PARIS ON LEAVE AT PRESENT! NICE FELLOW, WE MISS HIM!"
STOREY

MISS PUSHPA MATHANI (Medan, Indonesia)

I am a Sindhi girl but I like to marry an American. What is your opinion?

Your emotional life is your own but you are practical in choosing a country with plenty of food.

Chin-on-the-skull is another Nargis—Raj Kapoor love pose in "Anhonee", a social theme directed by K. Ahmed Abbas for Naya Sansar.

Is there any country in the world more beautiful than America?

There is a place on earth called "My Country" but you wouldn't understand that.

K. G. MATHUR (Ghaziabad)

Who is this guy Maganlal Dresswalla?

He is the bosom-blower of our film industry.

Y. B. SHUKLA (Kanpur)

Future of 'Pandit' Rafi?

Is with 'Maulana' Nehru!

T. P. JHUNJHUNWALA (Kanpur)

Do Muslims practise birth control?

From a few to 25 crores in thirteen centuries is not a story of control either in birth or conversion.

FIDAHUSEIN MOHAMODBHOY (Majunga, Madagascar)

Why does not the Indian Government send a High Commissioner for Madagascar?

Let us have particulars about the climate there and we'll see which Nehru wants a holiday. It is too small a place for our Vijaylakshmi.

K. B. LALL (Gwalior)

Why does not Pandit Nehru stick a rose on the white cap also?

There is time for that. Wait till he meets Stalin.

Say something interesting about the Nizam of Hyderabad?

I am told that he has cut down his bed diet from hundred wives to forty.

Suppose Mr. G. D. Birla becomes a sanyasi?

Sanyasis will start paying dividends.

OM PRAKASH CHUGH (Simla)

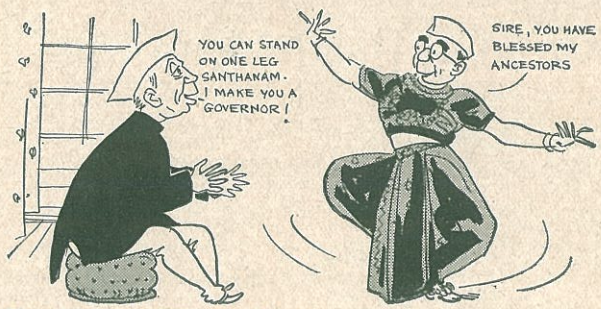
Is Master Tara Singh a good leader?

He barks too much and bites too little.

K. KRISHNA MURTY (Hyderabad Dn.)

What is the quality required to be appointed as Lt. Governor?

You must know Bharata Natyam, the art which Nehru appreciates.



J. H. ABDUL AZEEZ (Madras)

Who is this Vaidehi who is troubling you very much?

That is a ten-year old name which hides a 40-year old lawyer.

Rehana provides the provocation to Agha in "Hazaar Raten", a costume fantasy produced and directed by Jayant Desai.

ANANT SHANKAR MOKASHI (Allahabad)

You work hard and I work hardly; still my income is more than yours. Same is the case with other zamindars. How will you explain away the difference?

We have appointed a committee of Mao, Stalin and Gopalan to solve the problem.

MISS K. LALITA (Poona)

Are the Socialists dead and gone?

Dead but not buried and therefore stinking!

How to lift-up Gujarati girls?

Use Maganlals.

K. S. RANGANATH RAO (Nagpur)

Have you ever tasted "Nargisi Kabab"?

Only Raj has the right to taste that stuff.

MISS LAXMI TEJWANEY (Bombay)

Suraiya is planning to go to Hollywood. Do you think she will return alone?

Oh sure and pretty quickly! Only the sari will save her otherwise Suraiya's complexion is not very popular in America.

R. RUPAINDER RAO (Hyderabad Dn.)

Has Kashmir a frozen future?

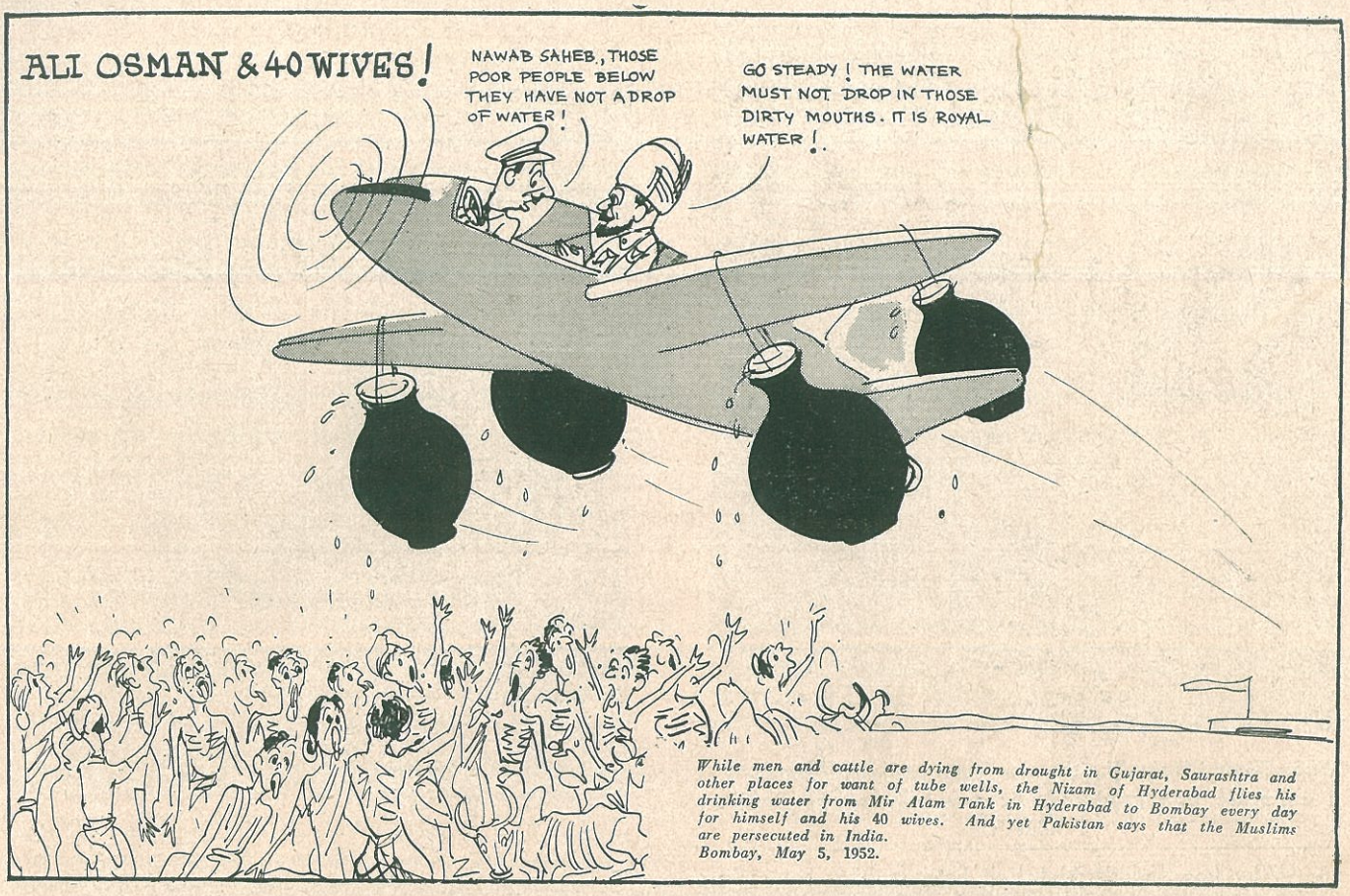
Oh no, the snow is melting and the rugged rocks are exposed now.

H. L. SETHI (Deolali)

Will Munshi go to hell?

Contact:- SUN RISE PICTURES

LAMINGTON ROAD BOMBAY 4


ALI OSMAN & 40 WIVES!
NAWAB SAHEB, THOSE POOR PEOPLE BELOW THEY HAVE NOT A DROP OF WATER!
GO STEADY! THE WATER MUST NOT DROP IN THOSE DIRTY MOUTHS. IT IS ROYAL WATER!

While men and cattle are dying from drought in Gujarat, Saurashtra and other places for want of tube wells, the Nizam of Hyderabad flies his drinking water from Mir Alam Tank in Hyderabad to Bombay every day for himself and his 40 wives. And yet Pakistan says that the Muslims are persecuted in India.
Bombay, May 5, 1952.

No! That lad is born for fun and romance. He must chase the "apsaras" in heaven.

Do you belong to the cream of society?

The cream stinks. I belong to the common milk part of it.

Can Rajkumari Amrit Kaur wink?

She can but she will hurt none.

What are the advantages of becoming Nehru's friend?

You can see the world at state expense.

I have heard that Chandulal Shah has become a "politison"?

With "phiting phor piss", "Estalin", "Church Hill", "True Mann", "Jawarlal Neru" and other political terms and names, he threatens to be a Member of Parliament some day.

Do Americans really want peace?

Sepulchral peace! An efficiency loving nation, the Americans believe in everything being perfect.

You say that the best way of learning a language is to take a sleeping dictionary. But Ashok Kumar is learning French with the help of gramophone records.

That is the second best way.

What is Vinoba Bhave's "Bhoomidan Yagna"?

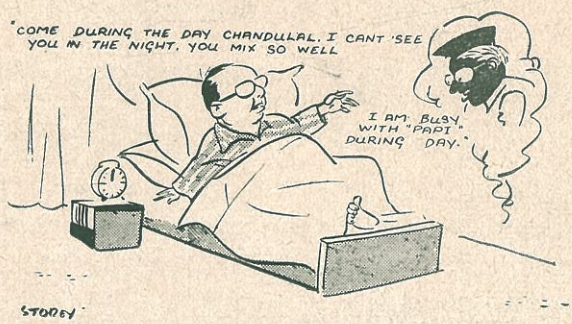
That is giving barren land to barren people to get barren results. No one values a prize unless he has sweated for it.

What opinion do you hold about S. Radhakrishnan?

A good philosopher, a fine writer and a nice man but wasting his time in politics at this age.

Last night I saw Naseem in my dream?

That is a beautiful dream. Do you know I have been waiting for that dream for fifteen long years? All that I get is Chandulal Shah.



How does Devika Rani define Communism?

By marriage! She has got a bearded Russian as her husband.

After the inauguration of the Film Festival at Delhi, Frank Capra said Nehru was the greatest living man of the world today. Do you agree?

No! Capra is the greatest, Nehru is the second greatest. Capra's "world" doesn't seem to be very big.

When Nimmi looks like that the heart stops in "Hamdard", a romantic tale produced by Asha Biswas for Variety Productions.

Why has Sheikh Abdullah been making contradictory statements recently?

Ask Stalin! He knows the answer.

I have known a girl from Bangalore who winks most of the time. What kind of girls live there?

Fireflies!

What do you say about Rajendra Nagar, Tilak Nagar, Lajpat Nagar, Malaviya Nagar, Patel Nagar etc. in Delhi?

All that matters is Jawaharabad where Maulana sings and Kidwai dances.

Which is the best book on sex that you would recommend to a young raw man?

The best book on sex is a woman. Get married soon!

After performing the opening ceremony of the Sindri Factory, Nehru said, "To those critics of my regime, I would say: Come and see Sindri and what we have done. Come to Chittaranjan. Come to the numerous national laboratories and other institutions." What criticism is left now?

Let us see the result of Sindri by an ounce of rice more on our dining table.

MISS SANTOSH DUGGAL (Ambala)

What is the secret of a couple's love in fifties?

No demand outside!

T K. THOMAS (Bangalore)

Any bright chance for Jaya Prakash Narayan in this life?

No! He does not deserve either. The man is barren in action.

V. PRABHAKER (Secunderabad)

Are you acquainted with ghosts?

In my new house at Pali Hill, we already have a family ghost. It's a woman in white walking with a child in her arms at midnight. She scares the watchmen and takes cocoanuts from them once a month. A symbolic ghost for this big orphanage that is Bharat!

K. A. K. AYYANGAR (Madras)

Are there wolves in Pakistan?

Hungry wolves searching for Indian lambs!

L. R. BORKAR (Madras)

Define Five Year Plan?

That is Pandit Nehru's chewing gum. Watch him chew it through the next five years in the Par-

GOLDEN TOBACCO COMPANY, BOMBAY 24.

Since she made her debut in "Kalighata," Asha Mathur has shown rapid progress in her work. Once again she features opposite Kishore Sahu in "Hamari Duniya", a social story directed by Sushil Sahu for Hindustan Chitra.

liament and outside. And it can be chewed longer, even though it loses its flavour.

MISS SAKINA MANIAR (Poona)

Our stars are doing so much for charity. What about our directors and producers ?

They are waiting for the stars to do something for them.

T. SOMASUNDAR RAO (Bellary)

Have you unveiled any statues so far ?

Not those bronze and marble ones we see in public parks ! Those are left for senile Congressmen.

M. VIDYA (Ootacamund)

Has the Nehru-Tandon tussle ended ?

With Tandon in the Parliament now, the armistice has ended.

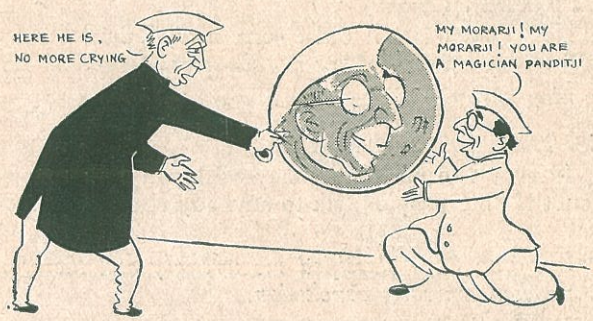
Have you had a chance to spend some time in the company of great souls?

I am always in the midst of great souls — thousands of them. It took me thirty years to collect this company.

K. PONNUSWAMY (Poona)

What was your feeling, Mr. Patel, when you heard of Morarji's defeat in the General Elections?

I was sorry for a while but I knew the balloon could be inflated again.



You write sometimes in praise of Gandhiji and sometimes against. What is your real stand?

I respect the man but not his legacy.

What will Graham ultimately give to India?

Jammu!

Bina Rai is fast developing a new screen personality. Here she is in "Gohar", a social story produced by P. N. Arora for All India Pictures.

MD. IBRAHIM (Hyderabad Dn.)

Don't you think the Nehru Government is appeasing Pakistan by stamping your editorial "Crescent Over India" as "highly offensive and objectionable" ?

Do you also think so? You seem to be a good Muslim.

Though I am a Muslim I did not find anything provocative in your last article ?

That is what many good and educated Muslims say.

K. L. KUMARI (Poona)

New Poona is not old Poona now, Babu !

How can it be with several Mada Streets running through Rasta Peth ?

MRS. TARA JOSHI (Rewari)

If ever I come to Bombay will you talk to me? I doubt if "big people" talk to anybody else except their dogs?

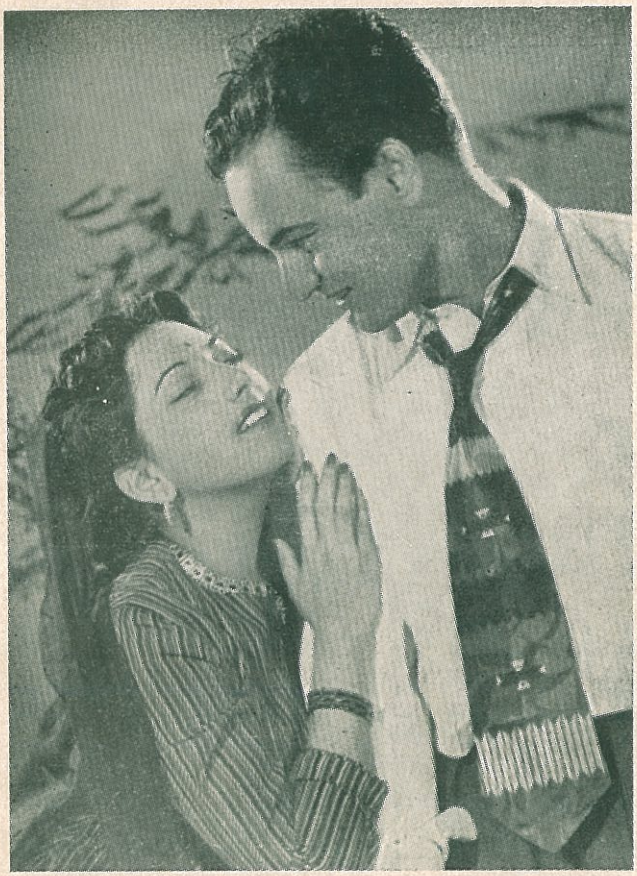
You have classified me wrongly and therefore reached a wrong conclusion.

Do you believe in fate?

I believe in it but I don't rely on it.

If Nehru resigns?

That type of optimism is criminal, Tara!



Suraiya knows how to cling affectionately to Mukesh in "Mashuqa," a romantic tale directed by Shanti Kumar for Chitrakar.

MOHAN TAWNEY (Bombay)

Will Prithviraj make use of his "jholi" in the Council of States?

That will be begging in a beggars' colony. That is one place where Prithvi's "jholi" stunt will fail.

The wife of my neighbour wears simple dress when she moves out of the house, whereas she wears costly and showy dress and ornaments in the house. Can you tell me why?

That is a good and wise woman. She is simple outside because she doesn't want to attract evil eyes and tempt the devil and keeps the she-devil out of her life by pleasing her husband.

Is an air hostess as light as air?

Not on a man's purse!

MRS. S. SHANTI DEVI (Madras)

Why are virgins always seen at the windows?

Windows provide good frames for their youthful portraits. When they get married they stand in doors waiting every evening.

WILFRED DODWELL (Singapore)

How great is the prestige of your magazine?

320 *million Hindus bless it and* 250 *million Muslims curse it—both without sufficient reason.*

May I have Nalini Jaywant's address?

Union Park, Chembur, Bombay. Her husband's name is Virendra Desai.

What are your views on the Goodwill Mission sent to Red China headed by Madame Pandit?

It will bring more goodwill back. But goodwill does not fill empty stomachs. That needs rice which Red China hasn't got.

BALBIR SAHAI (Delhi)

What is Prahlad Dutt doing nowadays?

I am told that he is in Madras doing research on Prohibition in that city.

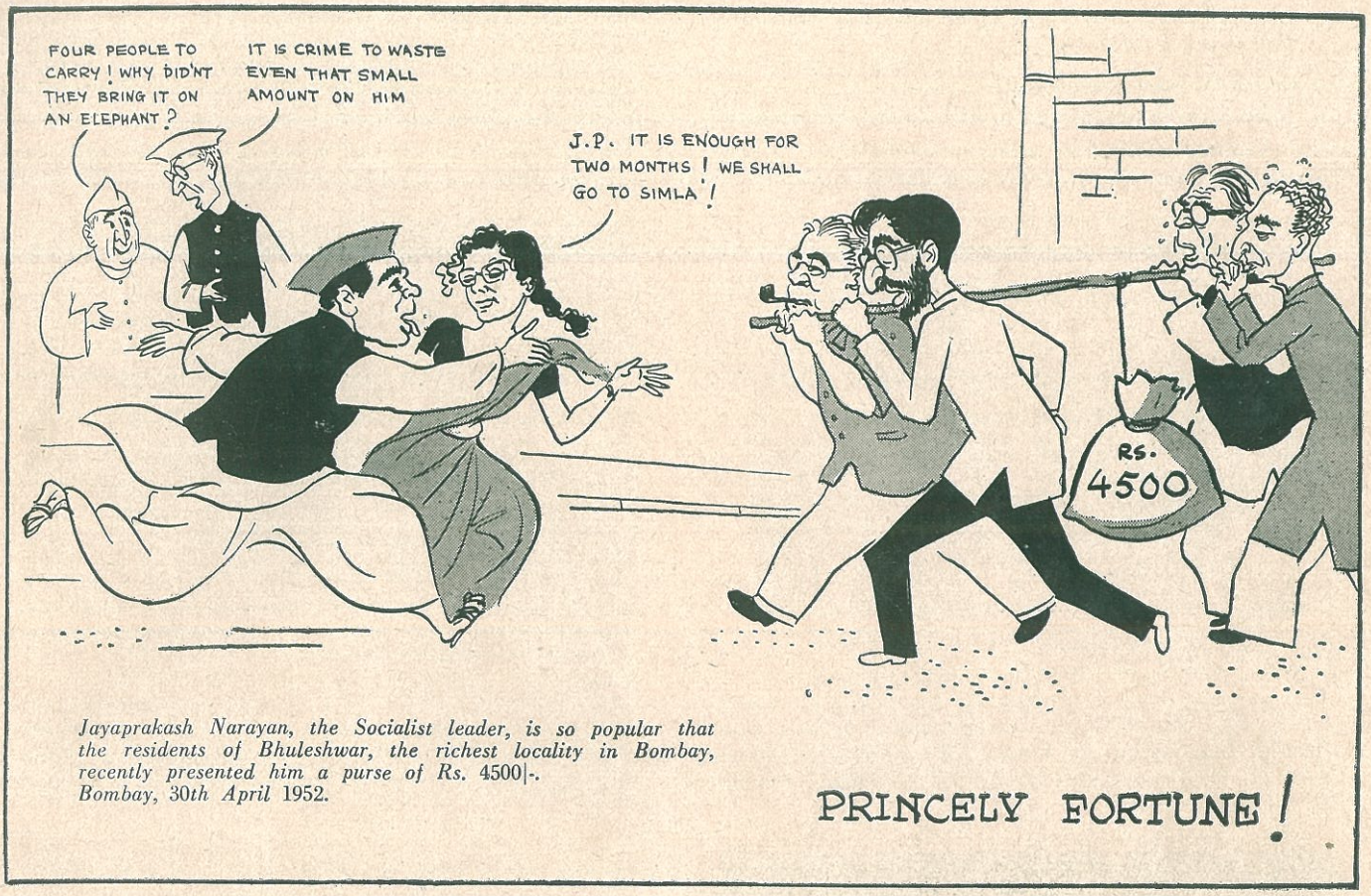
RUSI BOMANJI MISTRY (Bombay)

Rose's Lime Juice Cordial is my favourite English syrup !

And don't forget Bombelli's chocolates! Thanks for your birthday present.

If one's pen friend is a Communist, what should one ask of him?

Communist literature! The Communists have nothing else to give.


FOUR PEOPLE TO CARRY ! WHY DID'NT THEY BRING IT ON AN ELEPHANT ?
IT IS CRIME TO WASTE EVEN THAT SMALL AMOUNT ON HIM
J.P. IT IS ENOUGH FOR TWO MONTHS ! WE SHALL GO TO SIMLA !
RS. 4500

Jayaprakash Narayan, the Socialist leader, is so popular that the residents of Bhuleshwar, the richest locality in Bombay, recently presented him a purse of Rs. 4500|-. *Bombay,* 30*th April* 1952.

PRINCELY FORTUNE !

V. M. BALACHANDRAN (Kozhikode)

Who is the loser by the banning of "filmindia" in Pakistan?

No one is the loser because April copies were sold in Pakistan at ten rupees a copy. When you ban something you create a new market for it. And when hundreds of camels loaded with cloth cross the Bikaner border what is a camel-load of "filmindia"? Contraband goods have different selling agents though.

R. SUNDER (Bombay)

Why should Rajagopalachariar take the trouble of ruling Madras State even at this old age?

Rajaji is a charitable man and you know charity begins at home.

SHAUKAT (Dharwar)

Mr. Patel, someone is digging his grave!

It won't be a grave, Shaukat! It will be a pyre if a Muslim obliges.

RAJ A. CHHUGANI (Poona)

How do you recognize a Sindhi in Bombay?

Anyone that comes in your way is a Sindhi. The Sindhis always introduce themselves.

T. VASUDEVAN (Shoranur)

I intend to visit you next year after my college studies?

Don't come with one of those famous Shoranur knives.

SHYAM LAL (Lucknow)

Jinnah became the Governor-General of Pakistan and Nazimuddin has become the Prime Minister of Pakistan. Do you know of any other country in which the so-called biggest man appoints himself to the most glamorous post?

India! Nehru appointed himself the dictator of the Congress overnight.

M. KALIATH (Poona)

Are there any different views politically between you and your wife?

My wife is a blind follower of Nehru, I am not. My wife worships a hero, I worship my country.

Dear Mr. Patel, what is your actual skin colour?

I am tall and fair. Now tell me her name.

V. N. MATHUR (New Delhi)

How would you question Sheikh Abdullah's sincerity?

Where is the need now that the Sheikh has vomited his bile?

VASANT VIGHNE (Nagpur)

I can read my wife like a book!

Is she a desk diary with blank dates?

You are bent upon exposing Muslim intentions. Are you not afraid?

Man dies but once. Even fanatic Muslims

cannot kill him twice. Why be scared of something that is inevitable!

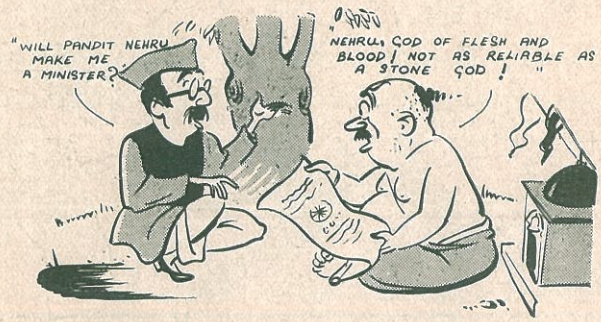
BASHAMBAR LAL (New Delhi)

Why do rich people run to hill stations in summer?

They don't like to lose their fat which they eat by ounces and store by pounds.

Future of astrologers, please?

Astrologers were born with our gods. They both live on the faith and the fears of human beings. Their future is eternal.



H. D. JAYASENA (Katunayaka, Ceylon)

Can you please introduce me to some pen friends in India? I am at present under training to be a pilot officer of the Ceylon Air Force. My address is: Flight Cadet H. D. Jayasena, R.CY.A.F. Katunayaka, Ceylon.

There, I have published your question. Now

That is a back-to-back pose in romance between Bharat Bhushan and Vijaylakshmi when they irritate each other in "Farmaish", a love story directed by B. K. Sagar and produced by J. Om Prakash for Majestic Films.

don't blame me if some girl induces you to do a parachute landing.

AMRITAL P. VEGAD (Bombay)

Nobody loves me Mr. Patel?

That is good! No one will come in your way. Now start work and sweat till you die.

MISS K. KAMLA (Poona)

In the heart of his hearts, does Nehruji believe in secularism?

There is nothing wrong with secularism. A modern democratic state must be secular. But Nehruji practises communalism when he seeks to pamper and protect the Muslims at the cost of the Hindus. The Prime Minister of a truly secular state should not make even an attempt to distinguish the two communities by naming them as Hindus and Muslims.

I like Morarji immensely. Do you?

I don't but he is badly needed at the moment just as we need vaccination to prevent small-pox. Morarji has very few likeable qualities but he is an experienced administrator.

What is new in New Delhi?

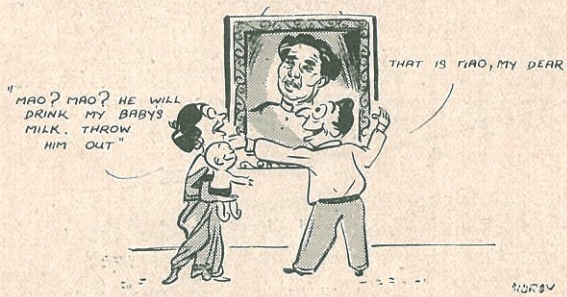
The white cap which when placed on the head makes a man look like an idiot and when placed on the hand makes him look like a beggar.

What is Rajaji to Nehruji?

A challenge—always felt but never thrashed out!

Chinese are our friends?

Vijaylakshmi Pandit said so recently. If you believe a woman, go ahead and hang a photo of Mao Tse Tung in your drawing room.



A. KRISHNAN (Sengipatti)

Will prohibition succeed in India?

It won't succeed even in Communist Russia.

What will be the result if a war breaks out between India and Pakistan?

There will be no Pakistan if the white-skinned peace-mongers don't interfere.

What is the device you follow to ascertain the age of an actress?

In films we neither count the years nor the children. We assess the goods by the looks.

What do you think of a woman who openly loves four men at a time?

A private limited company! The Company

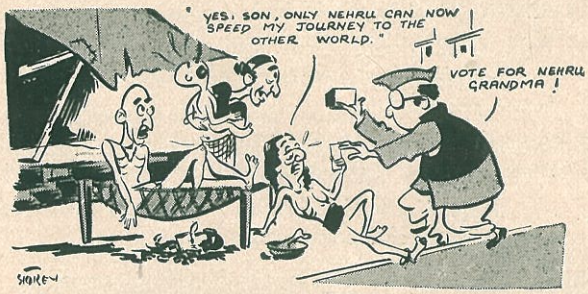
Nargis, the ever popular star of the movies, plays still another lead in "Pahili Shadi", a social theme produced by K. S. Daryani and directed by Ram Daryani for Krishin Movietone.

Law allows a range from two to fifty two share-holders for such concerns.

M. S. VISVANATHAN (Poona)

What will be the state of India at the time of the next elections?

Voters won't walk to the ballot boxes but ballot boxes will have to be taken to them.



What is Begum Para doing these days?

She seems to have made friends with some hotel proprietors and solved her dinner problem.

What has Morarji learnt from his recent failure?

Nothing! An all-wise man never learns anything new.

Dr. S. Radhakrishnan met Stalin. Why couldn't Vijaylakshmi Pandit do it?

Isn't there a difference between Radhakrishnan and Vijaylakshmi?

What happened to the trees we planted during the Vanamahotsav?

They have become ghosts and they are walking through the forests and frightening the animals these days.

Which part of "filmindia" do you like most?

The top of the cover where the price is written.

If we lose Kashmir?

We'll save some money and heartburning.

The monkeys which are being exported to America are not the white-capped ones, sir?

They are red-bottomed. We are exporting our Communists who eat and destroy our food.

Vijaylaxmi supplies some tantalising sex-appeal in "Bahu Beti", a social problem produced by Baroda Theatres and directed by C. L. Dheer.

Has Al Nasir disappeared?

Not yet! Give him time.

How much of the Five year Plan has been carried out?

It has been printed and circulated.

Do women pray for the same husband in their next birth?

My wife prays for my company through seven births. If her prayers are heard, I am doomed.

MRS. A. THOMPSON (Bombay)

The Jam Saheb is anxious to reduce his weight. What remedy do you suggest?

Six weeks in Rayalaseema.

What happens when a suspicious wife wakes up in the middle of the night?

She blushes unseen when she finds the brute snoring.

T. S. RADHIKA (Mysore)

What is your future?

Write to Anjuman-e-Barkate-Islam, Bombay and find out. They have planned it for me.

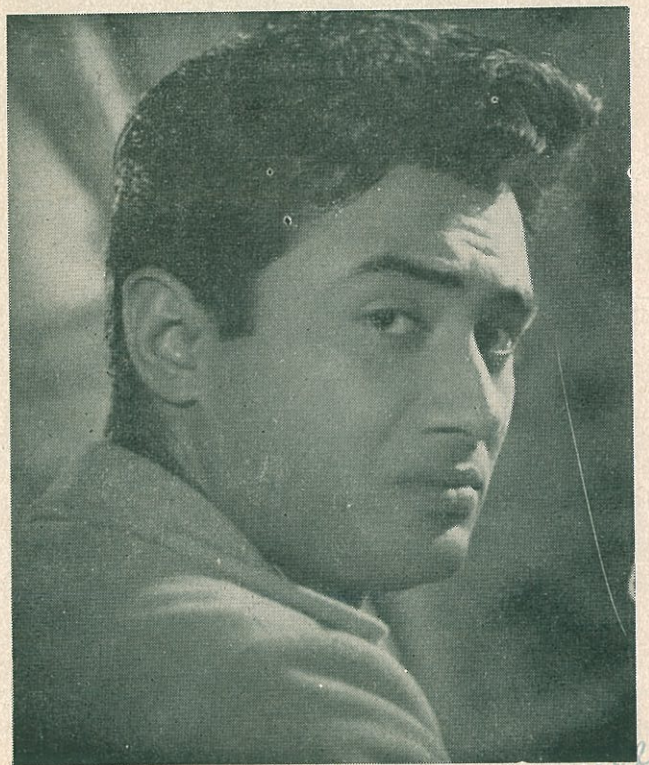
R. PARTHARAJ HOLOUR (Poona)

Too many questions irritate you, sir?

No, but stupid ones do.

K. V. GOPAL (Secunderabad)

In this secular land of ours, can't a man look twice at a woman without being misunderstood?



Dev Anand plays the lead in "Daao", a social theme produced by G. P. Sippy for G. P. Productions.

That is bigamy in looks—sin and crime combined in the white-capped regime.

Is Maulana a Muslim?

What does his silence over Sheikh Abdullah's speech show?

K. PONNUSWAMY (Poona)

As a critic how many enemies do you create per month?

In this world of envy and hatred, man has burnt his seed of friendship and women no longer bear smiling babies. They all come out shouting in protest.

K. GANESH (Calcutta)

We have very few Parsis in Calcutta but still this is a very talkative city.

That is because of the Biharis. They talk too much and disturb the sleeping Babus.

A. K. Gopalan had a lead of over 87,000 votes over his Congress rival?

I'll tell you a better one. Ravi Narayan Reddi polled the largest number of votes in the country and beat even Pandit Nehru.

G. RAMA RAO (Kothagudium)

Would you mind telling me your opinion about Rajaji's premiership of Madras?

The old man has an uphill task and needs all support and luck. I wish he succeeds. And he will only if rice and money are rushed to the South.

RAJ SINGH (Durban S. Africa)

Who sings better: Suraiya or Lata Mangeshkar?

Suraiya has a better voice though Lata is a better musician.

DR. KHURSHED B. MISTRY (Bombay)

Who deserves the epithet "born to blush unseen"?

Morarji Desai, when he reads new Prohibition crimes in the daily papers.

MRS. VISALAKSHY RAMANATHAN (Mannargudi)

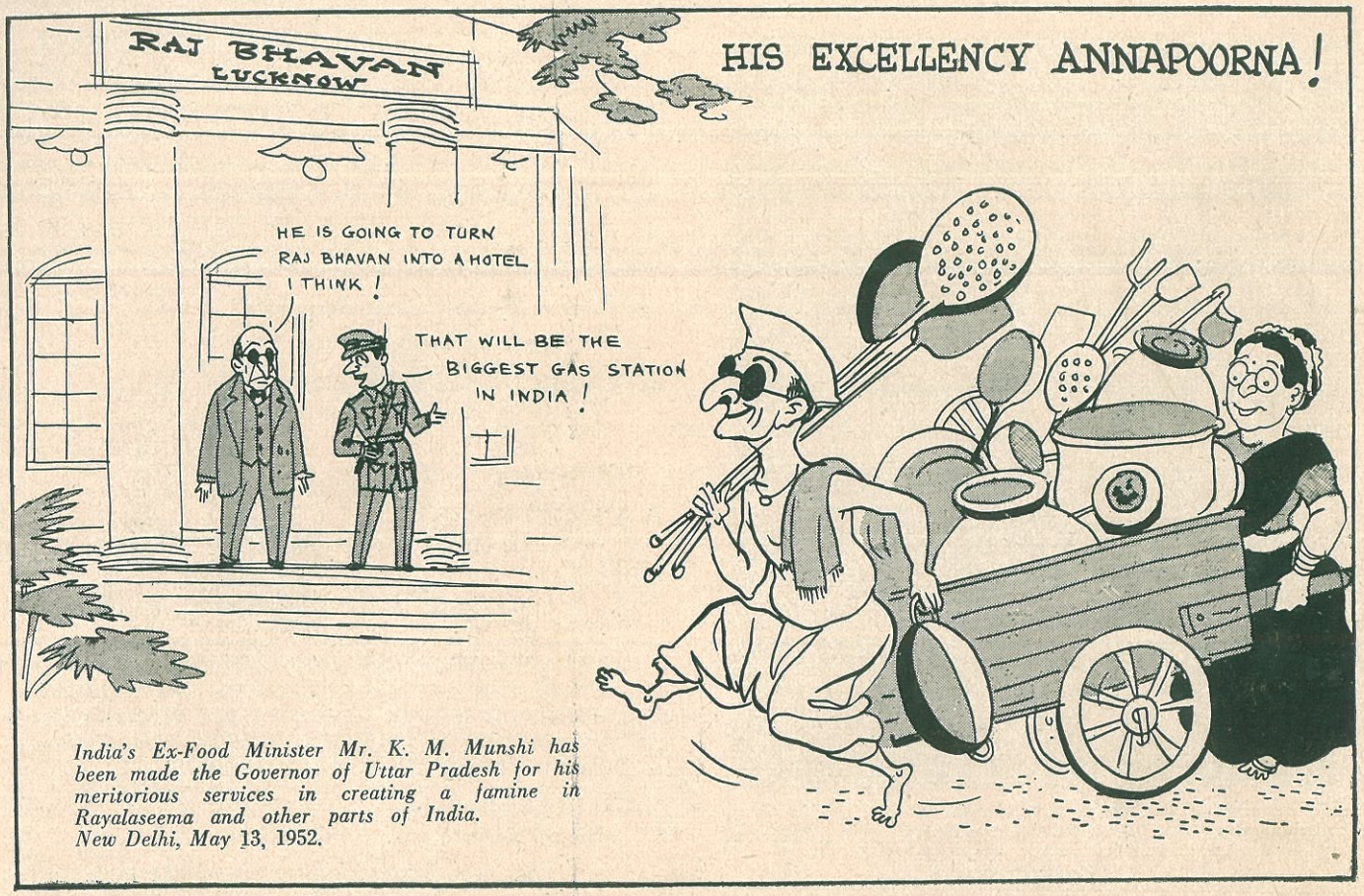
Should we congratulate Vijaylakshmi Pandit if she resigns?

Promise her a statue if she retires from politics. I shall also contribute.

K. R. VENKATASUBRAHMANIAN (Madras)

"Marxism has become out of date", said Pandit Nehru. Do you endorse this view?

No! It is idiotic to say that.


RAJ BHAVAN
LUCKNOW
HE IS GOING TO TURN RAJ BHAVAN INTO A HOTEL I THINK !
THAT WILL BE THE BIGGEST GAS STATION IN INDIA !
HIS EXCELLENCY ANNAPOORNA !

India's Ex-Food Minister Mr. K. M. Munshi has been made the Governor of Uttar Pradesh for his meritorious services in creating a famine in Rayalaseema and other parts of India.
New Delhi, May 13, 1952.

T. A. RAMANATHAN (Mannargudi)

I like Miss Usha Pai very much, Mr. Patel?

But she doesn't like a married man.

MITTU BHANOJIROW (Waltair)

Who is your godfather?

Orphans are sponsored by poverty.

INDER (Bhiwani E. Punjab)

You are threatened, your life is in danger and a case over your head! All this is for writing truth in Nehru's secular India?

Let us thank our stars that poison cups are not in fashion as in the days of Socrates.

MRS. JAYANTIKA M. DESAI (Bombay)

Inspite of Raj Kapoor minting money, Prithviraj wants the people to donate for his Prithvi Theatres. What is wrong with his son's money?

That is a special Kapoor technique of making money—which neither you nor I can understand. Why not ask Prithviraj where all the lakhs he has earned so far have gone?

M. S. VENKATARAMAN (Poona)

What is it that you admire in Nehru?

His innate sincerity.

Do you make a good husband?

If making a wife work hard is being a good husband then I am the best husband in the world.

Was "Amar Bhupali" a success?

Only in Maharashtra!

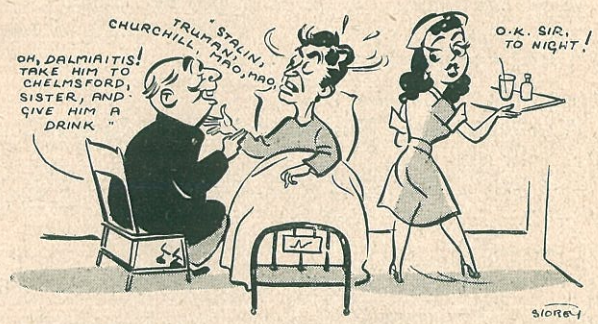
Will "Jhansi ki Rani" be a hit?

It is India's first picture in Technicolor. It will be seen by millions.

SUDARSHAN (New Delhi)

If President Truman is made the Premier of Russia, Stalin the President of U.S.A., Mao the Premier of Britain and Churchill the Dictator of China, will that solve the world's problems?

You are getting mad. Consult Dr. P. D. Bhargava of Chandni Chowk, Delhi. He is reported to have put Dalmia right when the old Marwari started talking of One World.



M. V. NAIDU (Narasapur)

Don't you think that Pandit Nehru himself contributed to the Communist success in Andhra Desa?

Yes, the old boy talked too much and too

Suraiya stars in one more love story, "Lal Kunwar", directed by Ravindra and produced by N. V. M. Productions.

tactlessly during his election campaign and lost several seats for the Congress. Morarji did the same thing in Bombay and lost both his seat and his face and had to be adopted as an unwanted orphan. When power begins to yield a bitter fruit, people strike at the roots.

MISS PUSHPA M. MALKANI (Calcutta)

Can a man trust his wife?

That would be a risky prescription because every woman makes a different wife.

MISS LALITA CHINNASWAMY (Secunderabad)

What kind of god do Marwaris pray to?

Marwaris often take God as a partner in business and leave the praying part to Him. The Marwaris themselves are too busy with the telephone finding out market rates.

D. NATARAJAN (Bombay)

You criticize the Muslims and yet you have a Muslim as your son-in-law?

My son-in-law is a good Muslim and I don't criticize good Muslims.

M. S. LULLA (Bombay)

Pakistan has been having a surplus in its budgets all along. How come?

A nation that does not believe in debts of honour can always have a surplus.

If a Moghul-like harem is left to you as a legacy, what will you do with it?

I'll start a nursing home if the women are good-looking and a boarding house if they are ugly.

R. A. CHHUGANI (Poona)

What sort of film stars do you dislike most?

Those who ruin their producers by behaving like cads. Quite a few of our young artistes completely lack self-discipline and have no conscience for hard and honest work.

Why is Morarji silent these days?

He is licking his pride.

A. R. KHAN (Hyderabad Dn.)

What does Pakistan mean by "language of peace"?

Read Muslim-owned Urdu papers of Hyderabad and you will know.

K. S. CHARI (Nellore)

Will I be on the wrong side of law if I marry two girls?

In India we have different laws for different provinces. Step out of your province north-eastwards and you can marry ten. Our laws of morality are all mixed up and change from man to moods. Drinking is a crime in Bombay and Madras while it is a virtue in Delhi and Calcutta. That is how Pandit Nehru finds unity in diversity.

GOTU RELE (Bombay)

Should parents disown their children?

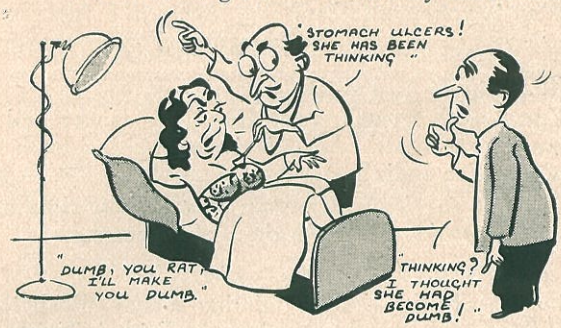
That is a matter children decide by their own behaviour.

Can a mother be sadistic?

Yes, when the wife in her gets furious.

Are stomach ulcers only a man's ailment?

Women also get them when they start thinking.



OM PARKASH (Delhi)

Some princes are helping the dacoit Bhupat and are still getting their privy purses. Why?

Some dacoits have to be paid for observing professional inactivity. During the British rule, we used to buy peace by paying the Frontier tribesmen. Now we pay the big dacoits and punish the small ones.

M. S. DURYAMANI (Bombay)

Have you faith in the loyalty of Muslim leaders in India?

No! Reason: Sheikh Abdullah. That was the man we trusted most.

M. S. SHANT (Kolhapur)

Why don't you go underground for a year?

That means I must go to Pakistan. That is a country in which they bury all.

MRS. VIDYAWATI GUPTA (Delhi)

What is your opinion about the bachelors who roam about in Connaught Place in New Delhi?

They show poor taste in choosing that junk market.

MRS. SNEHAPRABHA VASUDEV (Bombay)

Alas, if Sardar Patel had been alive today?

I wouldn't have been threatened with a prosecution merely to appease the Muslims.

What do Indian Muslims find in you?

I have a lamb's face. It tempts their surgical skill.

Is Maulana Azad a good showman?

Very good indeed! He even makes his puppet speak and against the Hindus every time.

A. ZACHARIA (Trivandrum)

What hope has a Hindu living on the wrong side of the Indo-Pakistan border?

He is a living guarantee of one Pakistani Muslim going to heaven.

Who will assume the leadership of Asia: India, Japan or China?

China! It has enough red blood, red eyes and red arms.

What are the feelings of a prostitute when she is being undressed?

That is a profession in which a person is undressed to be dressed for work. Every profession has its own uniform. The prostitute relies on the one God gave her.

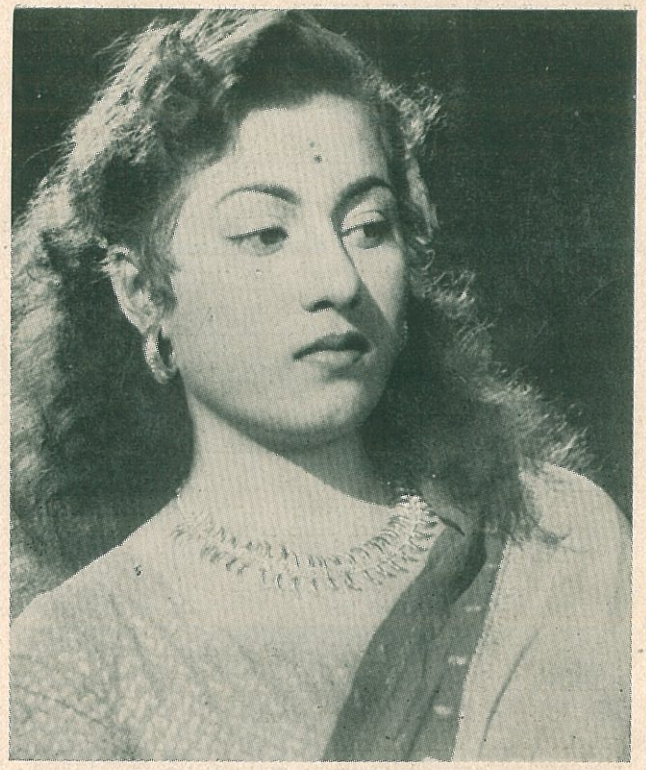
If every Indian considers himself as an Indian first and last, what would be the outcome?

India will get 400 million soldiers in a day and Pakistan will stop picking a quarrel with us every week.

What is wrong with our civil servants?

They are all suffering from tapeworms—the white tape variety, which is a little different from the six common varieties of tapeworms found in human beings.

Can't you float a loan, if the Government does it?



Madhubala, our popular star, plays a nice role in "Kamna", a social story produced and directed by Devi Sharma for Kamna Productions.

I don't need one. I am not broke like our government.

Hungry people are dangerous, isn't it?

Only in democracy which is an ever-blushing political ideology.

When does a politician turn his coat?

When his cap has a crescent on it, e.g., Sheikh Abdullah.

Who loves India more: an Anglo-Indian or a Muslim?

A Muslim has a fanatic love for India, a land where he can earn, multiply and tyrannize others. The average Anglo-Indian loves England more but his love is only skin-deep.

Which is the best hotel in India today?

It is in Aurangabad. It is called State Hotel. It is run by a lady who treats her guests like her own children.

Do you think B. R. Sen is our right ambassador in U.S.A.?

Almost anyone would be better than our big sister.

I am afraid Raj may seek divorce some day the way Nargis follows him wherever he goes?

I don't think so. Raj is a very sensible boy. He has a charming wife and two sweet kids. I don't think he will give up his happy home life so easily.

Have Communists any constructive programme in hand?

While we want international help for the rapid industrialization of our country, the Communists want to confiscate and nationalize all British-owned factories and enterprises. Why should the foreigners help us without any benefit to themselves? But the Communist plan is to drive out the British and the Americans, cripple our industrialization plans and then rush to Russia with a beggar's bowl. That is playing Moscow's game and subsidizing famine and poverty.

USHA KOPARKAR (New Delhi)

It is said that the English girls look best in their sports, German girls in kitchens, French girls in cabarets and American girls in bathing pools. Where do the Indian girls look their best?

Beside the cradles!

SATYA NARAIN (Delhi)

Are you proud of your knowledge?

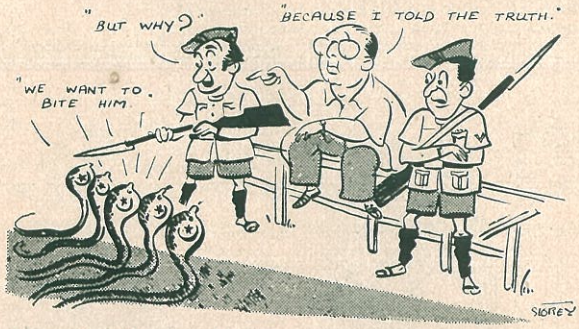
At my stage, knowledge humbles a man.

The tick-tick pose in romance! Shekhar counts Nimmi's heart beats in "Hamdard" a social story produced by Variety Productions.

C. MOHAMEDALI (Madras)

Define intolerance?

Ask me another Mohamedali! Last time when I defined intolerance, the cobras came out hissing with open fangs and created a national crisis, leave alone endangering my life.



RAM CHARAN (New Delhi)

What punishment would you prescribe for bigamy?

Bigamy is a punishment in itself. You can't punish a man twice for the same offence.

G. ANNAJI RAO (Kothagudium)

Morarji—from Home Minister to Chief Minister, Rajaji—from Cabinet Minister to Chief Minister. Any comment?

Both opportunists!

KUMARI NARGIS PARAS (Dehradun)

Marriage! Marriage! Marriage! Oh Lord, what is this nonsense? At least I can't bear it Mr. Patel! Suggest any remedy please?

Marriage is a remedy in itself. It cures many ailments. Try the remedy and what seems like nonsense now might look like a lot of sense later.

MISS VINODINI CHAUDHARI (Bombay)

Are you bullet-proof?

The Muslim journalists are testing that these days.

MRS. NALINI M. KATVI (Bombay)

Is Maulana Azad a staunch Muslim?

He is a spirited Muslim.

Is Prohibition an utter failure?

Prohibition is a dead duck, though the flat-footed white-capped Donalds won't admit it.

Is it possible for us to save you from those who threaten to murder you?

No! It is the duty of the State to protect a man who is a good citizen and a profitable propo-

sition as a tax-payer. The State also has a great moral responsibility in this respect because those who threaten to kill me are the spoilt wards of our secular state.

MRS. RAJANI DEVI (Bombay)

If Morarji asks for a job in your office, what job will you assign him?

I'll put him in charge of collecting the advertisement bills and producers will pay even time-barred bills to avoid Morarji's nuisance. Only those who know Morarji intimately can realize what a stubborn nuisance Morarji can become when bent on doing something.

BABU'S HOME GUARD HAS COME. GIVE ME YOUR BANGLES!
NANDA PICTURES
"TAKE THEM AND PAY HIM. I DON'T LIKE TO SEE HIS FACE EARLY MORNING"

What kind of interest do you take in nurses?

That depends on my disease and their symptoms.

What is Pakistan's buried treasure?

Pakistan has millions buried in India ready to jump out of the earth with the cry of "Allah-ho-Akbar".

What future has Vijaylakshmi Pandit?

The same as Fatima Jinnah's.

Has S. K. Patil succeeded in fooling Nehru completely?

You cannot fool a man of prejudices. To fool another you need his ear and mind—both open.

Why does Morarjibhai cling to a boasting habit?

That is natural behaviour in Bulsar.

Are Anglo-Indian women scared of their husbands?

Looks like the way so many men are disowning their wives in newspaper notices.

What will you do if a nurse chases you?

I'll fall ill and stop her chasing. That will give her a chance to nurse me in bed.

What can we learn from Chintaman Deshmukh?

That a civil servant always remains civil before his boss whatever he may brag outside.

Was the Indian cultural delegation to China really necessary in your opinion?

It was necessary for Vijaylakshmi Pandit to see China. She always travels with a retinue.

Are you in favour of offering flowers to God?

That is a better use of flowers than putting them in a politician's buttonhole.

Whatever the role, Nargis fits it with her versatility. She plays a memorable role in "Angaray", a social melodrama produced and directed by K. B. Lall for Akash Chitra.

Does Morarji have any followers?

His chair has attendants.

MRS. SEELWANTI M. DEVNANI (New Delhi)

What is this All India Women's Food Council doing?

Competing with Burmah-Shell in opening gas stations !

MISS ASHA SINHA (Arrah)

Between a step-mother and a mother-in-law what will be your choice?

The mother-in-law ! She will at least think of the man as her daughter's husband.

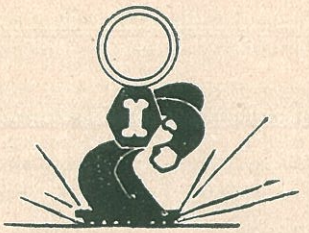
I had been to Bombay year before last. What changes have occurred in the city since then?

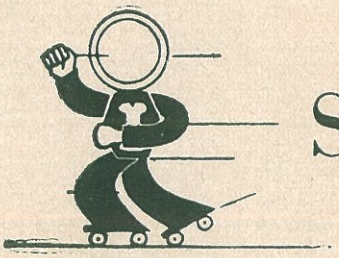
Morarji Desai grew a wisdom tooth.

GEORGE LESLIE (Colombo)

Who has more sex appeal : Asha Mathur or Bina Rai?

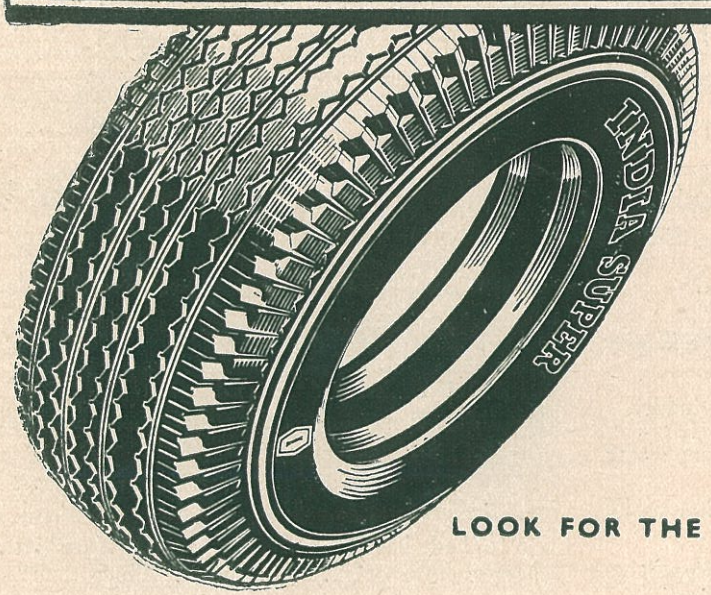
Safe Grip





Smooth Riding

More Miles



INDIA SUPER

LOOK FOR THE RED RING

Punjabis prefer Asha Mathur, the Gujaratis like Bina Rai.

INDRA MOHAN SAHAI (Lucknow)

I want to send my sister to Miranda House. Have you any objection to it?

No, fly her straight. It is a good institution.

MRS. SUNANDA BAI (Bombay)

Why is Morarji Desai in good books with Pandit Nehru?

When you begin with new books you always begin well. The books look bad at the end. Morarji changed his books after Sardar Patel's death.

Do you know what is the significance of a street lamp?

Yes, a municipal lamp makes darkness visible.

When will Maulana Azad give a parting kick to the Nehru Government?

The Maulana is suffering from gout. He cannot kick just now. You must wait till his leg is all right.

MRS. AMUL KRISHNAN (Madras)

Do politicians love women?

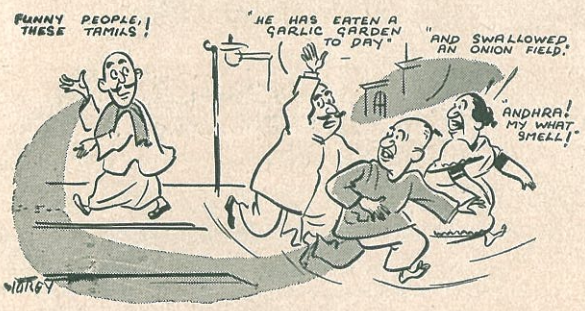
When they get time.

Which is the best love story you have come across?

That of Adam and Eve. It populated a world.

Why do the Andhras use onions and garlic?

So, that is what the Tamils don't like in them.



R. VARADARAJAN (Poona)

Can you point out a single person following Gandhian principles?

What about our land surveyor Vinoba Bhave measuring the country with his bony legs?

Nehru is good for . . . ?

Muslims !

CHANDRAKANT B. MALKANI (Bombay)

What harm is there if we have Communism in India?

No harm if we all want it badly. But mere Communism won't solve our problems.

E. R. VAIDEHI (Chingleput)

Can "Bhagwan" save a Hindu in Pakistan?

No, but a beard can.

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The following prizes will be awarded every month for questions which are considered interesting or elicit interesting replies in the "Editor's Mail".

1st Prize: Rs. 290|- and one copy of "Grey Dust"; 2nd Prize: Rs. 190|- and a copy; 3rd Prize: Rs. 90|- and a copy; 4th Prize: Rs. 70|- and a copy; 5th Prize: Rs. 40|- and a copy; 6th Prize: Rs. 30|- and a copy; 7th Prize: Rs. 20|- and a copy and 20 Consolation Prizes of one copy of "Grey Dust" each.

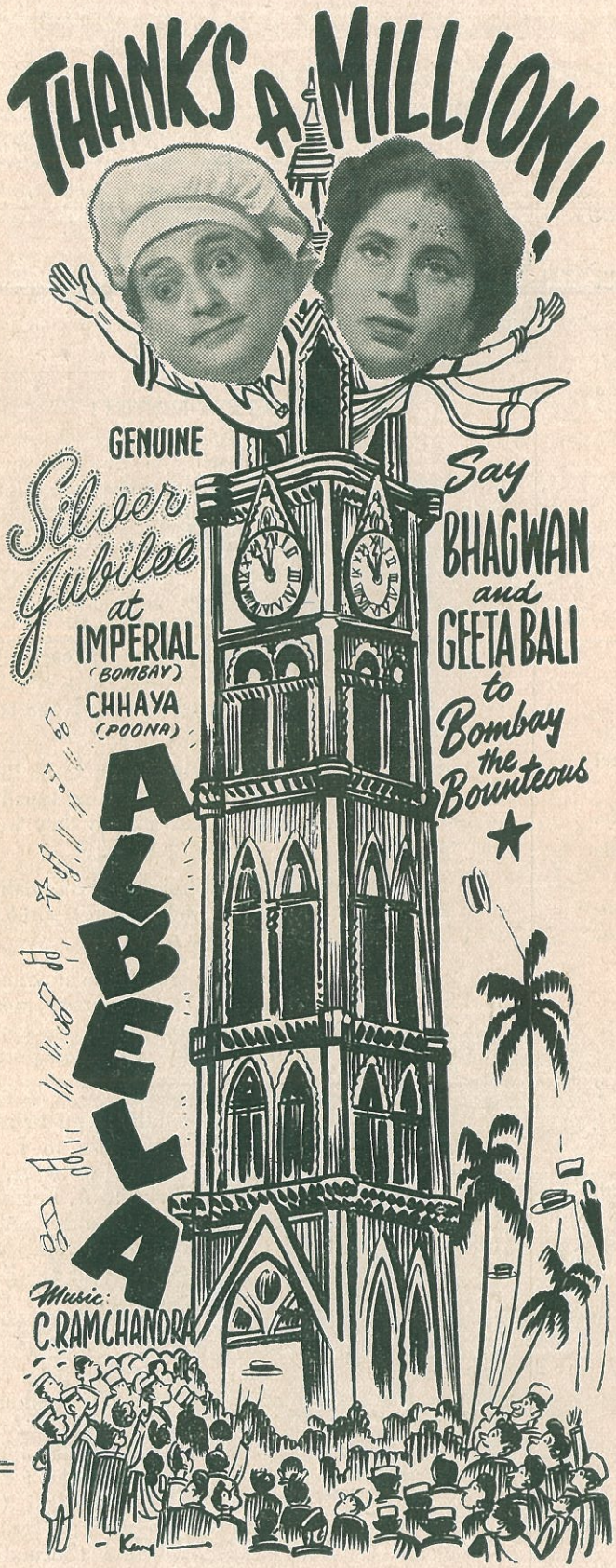
A reader can ask as many questions as he likes. Questions should be neatly written or typed if possible. Unless the letters are signed they won't be considered.

In awarding prizes the Editor's decision shall be final and absolutely binding and no correspondence will be entertained.

The names of the prize-winners will be announced in "filmindia" every month and the prize money will be remitted by money order while the copies of "Grey Dust" will be sent by registered post.

PRIZE WINNERS FOR JUNE

1st Prize to H. L. Sethi (Deolali); 2nd Prize to A. Zacharia (Trivandrum); 3rd Prize to E. V. Rama Rao (Penumadam); 4th Prize to A. N. Narayana Rao (Mysore); 5th Prize to A. Krishnan (Sengipatti); 6th Prize to T. D. Ramachandran (Nellore); 7th Prize to Om Parkash (Delhi) and 20 consolation prizes to the following:—Prof. K. S. S. Sharma (Nagpur); Pijush Kanti Paul (Malacca, Malaya); Ram Saroop Gupta (Kangra); T. C. Motwani (Poona); Kumari Lalita (Vizianagaram); D. Lutchmun (Kabrit, Egypt); Miss Pushpa Mathani (Medan, Indonesia); Fidahusein Mohamodbhoy (Majunga, Madagascar); Anant Shankar Mokashi (Allahabad); K. Krishna Murty (Hyderabad Dn.); L. R. Borker (Madras); Miss Sakina Maniar (Poona); Mrs. Tara Joshi (Rewari); Wilfred Dodwell (Singapore); Mrs. A. Thompson (Bombay); K. V. Gopal (Secunderabad); Sudarshan (New Delhi); Mrs. Vidyawati Gupta (Delhi); Miss Asha Sinha (Arrah); and M. D. Shant (Kolhapur). Money orders and copies are being sent to all the prize winners.



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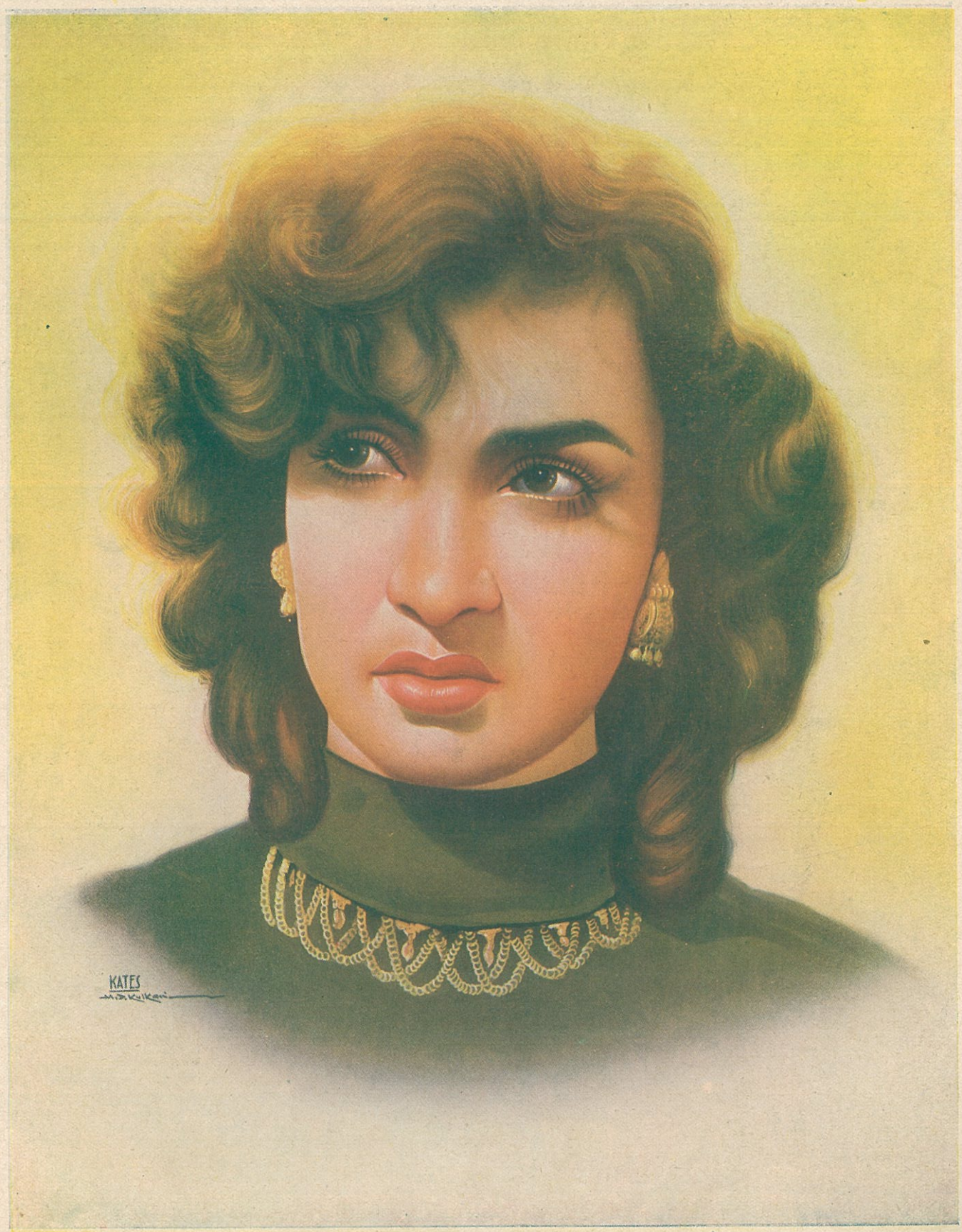

NADIRA —

Nadira, the new heartache of the Indian screen, will give new dreams to millions of filmgoers in "Nagma", an unusual social romance, produced and directed by Nakshab for Filmco.

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OUR REVIEW

"Ratnadeep", A Picture Worth Seeing!

Debaki Bose In Old Form Again!

Debaki Bose's "Ratnadeep" ranks with pictures like 'Chhota Bhai' and 'Swayam Siddha' made at Calcutta and goes to prove that Calcutta can still find a happy compromise between art and commerce. Debaki Bose after the past few years of failures and partial obscurity once again comes into reckoning as a leading Indian director with the success of "Ratnadeep".

His 'Ratnadeep' negatively proves that something is wrong with the climate of Bombay for making clean and wholesome pictures. After waiting long and in vain for some Bombay producer to tell a good story in a straight manner on the screen, we felt satisfied on seeing the Calcutta-made 'Ratnadeep'.

'Ratnadeep', adapted for the screen from a novel by Prabhat Mukherjee, is a story which can happen only in India, where people are still more scrupulous about stealing another's wife than stealing another's money. This story puts a premium on the Indian conception of love and idealism.

'Ratnadeep's' hero stoops to become an impostor and steal money by calculation but still, refrains, under grave provocation, from exploiting an innocent woman who is eager to give him her all. It is in artistically emphasizing this aspect in the story that Debaki Bose triumphs. It is here he teaches a lesson to Bombay producers to find some virtues from Indian idealism to inspire their stories instead of opening factories in Bombay to assemble Hollywood components into un-national structures.

A SENSITIVE THEME

The story of 'Ratnadeep' is about one Gopal, an assistant station master at a wayside station—Khusrupur, who is shown a sufferer having lost his job and wife, the latter having jilted him for a richer man.

On the last night of his duty at the station, a passenger train drops the corpse of a Sanyasi who had died during the journey due to heart failure. Gopal gets the body transferred from the train to the station and makes arrangements for its cremation the next morning and it is now that he notices along with others, that the deceased Sanyasi is his carbon copy in looks.

During the night Gopal goes through the dead Sanyasi's diaries and discovers that he had been the possessor of an unusual life. Actually the Sanyasi was the heir apparent of Basuli Raj estate, which he had left for the life of a Sanyasi. And now after fourteen years he was returning to his estate but could reach only as far as Khusrupur to put some crazy ideas into the head of a poverty-stricken assistant station master.

Gopal eager to forget his past wretched life pounces upon the opportunity, offered by the strange coincidence to pose as the Sanyasi and claim his estate and all the rest with it.

Soon the people of Basuli Raj accept impostor Gopal as their long lost Bhuvan, the heir apparent with great eclat.

Now this Gopal was a poor distressed man who was struck by some evil schemes but he was not a complete moral refugee. Confronted with the late Bhuvan's mother's flowing affections and his widow's eagerness to consummate her marriage after fourteen years' interruption, Gopal feels baffled and in order to find a way out of these embarrassments he declares that his hermitic life will continue for three more months. He succeeds in being left alone but not entirely because the young widow continues her blind devotion to him. She strives day in and day out to please what she thinks is her husband—her god.

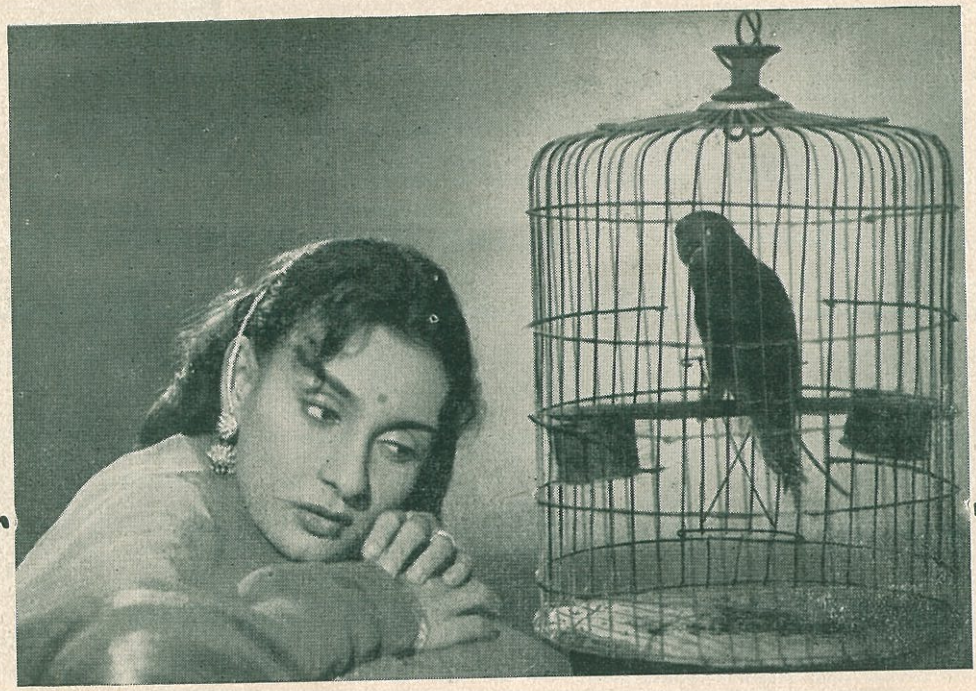
Rehana sings and dances with abandon in "Hazaar Raten", a musical spectacle produced and directed by Jayant Desai.

Dr. Ashok Kumar takes personal interest in Patient Bina Rai in "Shole", a romantic tale directed by B. R. Chopra for Hira Films.

MISSED THE BUS

The widow's sublime devotion proves too much for the conscience of the poor ex-E.I.R. employee and he is left with no heart to beguile this innocent, noble and loving woman anymore. Overwhelmed with a guilty conscience Gopal decides to make amends for his lost soul by revealing the whole truth to the young widow. This decision comes as a fitting climax to a cleverly and emotionally developed story.

Now some exaggerated, though inevitable, melodrama follows and soon the young widow dies with the shock of finding a phoney husband after fourteen years and the late Bhuvan's mother after the initial shock and stagger balances Gopal's evil doings against his opportunities for far more evil doings which he abstained from availing himself and adjudges him to be on the credit side. And the story ends near the pyre of the disillusioned widow on a sentimental note.



NADIRA & BALRAJ SAHANI

(AAN Fame) (Humlog & Badnam Fame)

in

MANMOHAN Films'

AKASH

with Manmohan Krishna & The Comedian AGHA

Written & Produced By

K. A. ABBAS

Music
Anil Biswas

Associate Director
NARENDRA TRIVEDI

Photography
Ramchandra

Directed by

MANMOHAN SABIR

(Now on the Sets at Central Studios)

Manmohan Films

NAYA SANSAR, Central Studios, Tardeo, Bombay 7.

In the last shot of the story in which Gopal picks up the ashes of Bahurani, albeit with loving reverence, Debaki Bose dissipates the lofty spiritual level with which the rest of the story is developed. Couldn't he have made even the ashes of the virgin widow sacrosanct with a dialogue in the mouth of Gopal, in response to Bahurani's echoing sentiment, to the effect: "No, Bahurani, even in ashes you shall remain a virgin bride of another. I shall not defile your ashes by my touch, however loving and affectionate."? That would not have brought down the story to a common mundane level. Debaki can still do this and lift the picture to the extreme height of Hindu culture and philosophy.

Except for a few digressions, apparently to please the fans of Hindustani films and some crude yesteryear technique employed at places, the story has been told on the screen by Debaki Bose with sympathy, vividness and clarity that are at once gripping. With his sensitive handling of the theme Debaki Bose invests an emotional quality to his picture and succeeds in striking a harmonious note in the hearts of his audience. His direction shows the skilful artist in him.

The production values of the picture are quite imposing. Sets are good. Photography is quite pleasing. Recording is quite satisfactory. Music is also good, but in contrast with Hindi 'Bhajans' and the general atmosphere of the picture the conventional Urdu words used in the lyrics appear out of place. Dialogue is well-written.

In the field of acting, Abhi Bhattacharjee gives a good rendering of a difficult role as Gopal. The inner conflicts of an inherently good man are ably reflected in his eyes and the restrained expression on his face.

Anuva Gupta has a highlander's fat face and looks a good house wife. She is good in her coquettish sequences and superb in places where she brings passion into her eyes and then swallows it again in utter frustration. Monju De in the role of a young widow's companion promises some acting talent though she hasn't much of a face. Molina leaves a bad impression with her exaggerated manners and overall over-acting.

Pahari Sanyal turns out a brilliant piece as the domestic servant and is well supported by Chhaya Devi. On the whole, 'Ratnadeep' is an outstanding picture with a moral and emotional quality and is a triumph for Director Debaki Bose.

RATNADEEP

Producers: **Debaki Bose Production**
Language: **Hindustani**
Story: **Prabhat Kumar Mukherjee**
Scenario: **Debaki Bose**
Dialogue: **Pt. Narotam Vyas & Shekhar Roy**
Lyrics: **Mahendra Pran & Pt. Madhur**
Music: **Rabin Chatterjee**
Audiography: **Kshetra Bhattacharjee**
Photography: **Deojibhai**
Cast: **Anuva Gupta, Monju De, Molina Devi, Chhaya Devi, Abhi Bhattacharjee, Pahari Sanyal etc.**
Date of Release: **25th April 1952.**
Released At: **New Empire**

Directed By:
DEBAKI KUMAR BOSE

Suraiya leads the cast in "Lal Kunwar", a love story directed by Ravindra for N. V. M. Productions.

OUR REVIEW

"Sazaa", A Lavish Waste of Money!

Technically Beautiful but Dramatically Poor!

"Sazaa" constitutes a crushing punishment inflicted by two camera-crazy technicians on an enterprising producer. Any other man but Producer G. P. Sippy would have lost his wits under this lavish impost which the two Mistry Brothers—Jal and Fali—have levied upon him.

But Sippy has not learnt his lesson, for, we see two more pictures with the same technical combination being once again planned by him. Let us hope that both these pictures score at the box-office, otherwise we shall finally lose a good producer with some guts and enterprise.

The Mistry Brothers are excellent camera artists, two of the finest technicians we have in our industry. But excellence in one art of production does not necessarily guarantee excellence in another one. That is the main tragedy of "Sazaa", the presumption of Fali Mistry, an excellent cameraman, to direct the picture which he has from the first foot to the last seen only through the lens, oblivious of the characters and the human story behind them.

THE DUMB HEROINE

Inspired by "Johnny Belinda", Story-writer Hasrat Lakhnavi has tried to give us a phantastic love tale which strains both our reason and imagination at frequent intervals.

Ashok, the son of a wealthy man, Major Durjan Singh, has Asha, a poor widow's daughter, as a playmate. The children love each other very deeply. The social gulf between the two irritates Major Durjan Singh and he slaps the little girl and orders her mother to keep Asha away from Ashok. The shock of the slapping incident makes Asha dumb for ten years, even though her mother shifts her to another place.

Ashok is haunted by his childhood passion and becomes a neurotic under the stern discipline of his father. The hangover of his childhood love ruins his marriage with another girl and he runs away from his home on the wedding night. The usual film coincidence lands him under the speeding wheel of a car and into the loving arms of Kamini, the beautiful daughter of a crazy rich man.

Kamini soon employs Ashok as her father's manager and begins to fawn upon him. She calls it love at first sight. In this house is employed the dumb Asha as a maid servant. Asha recognizes Ashok and begins to vibrate again.

After the usual hit-and-miss sequences Ashok takes Asha to a psychiatrist and in his consulting room the miracle of restoring speech to Asha takes place. The treatment begins with Ashok embracing Asha and ends with his threatening to jump out of the window. And, lo, the dumb girl gets back her tongue!

Asha and Ashok now start taking new rehearsals of their old childhood romance and they soon reach the stage where they propose to marry each other. Kamini gets red with rage and sacks Ashok.

Ashok has a rare and precious ring on his finger which he sells for Rs. 25,000/- but the jeweller who buys it gives him a cheque and informs Ashok's mother-in-law staying with Ashok's father.

At the bank next morning, Major Durjan Singh pushes his son into the car and drives home. Ashok is soon locked up in a room and as usual both the love doves, Asha and Ashok, now burst out into the usual heart-rending wails of love and separation. Even Kamini contributes to the general mourning by a song of her own frustration.

By the time these tears are shed, a photograph of Ashok's dead mother falls to the ground and through its broken glass, the dead woman gives a telepathic lecture to Major Durjan Singh. Durjan Singh, who loves his own voice, swallows it for a while and listens to the voice from beyond. He is transformed into a new person.

Durjan Singh calls on Asha, embraces her with tears in his eyes and promises to get Asha and Ashok married within a week. Returning home, he surprises his son with the news.

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"Chham Chhama Chham" directed by Santoshi for Mohan Studios promises to be a song-cum-dance entertainer, of course when it gets ready. And only a good astrologer can say when.

But Ashok's mother-in-law doesn't like the new plan, with her own daughter raving mad in another room. She brings Asha there on her wedding day and tells her the pathetic story of her daughter. Asha is stunned with the tragedy and she decides to remove herself out of the way of the other unfortunate woman.

As she is conveniently standing at the top of a staircase, the director just pushes her down and rushes to the final climax.

We now see the Anand baby on top of a lamb-sized horse, dressed like a bridegroom being led by his father to the bride's house. But the bride's mother, beating the tempo of sequences by Olympic strides, has already arrived home carrying her daughter in her arms and moreover kept her dressed and ready as a bride. As we don't see any Tiger Moth around we attribute this quick work to the kindness of some genie.

Asha threatens to die but Ashok does not agree to this. While this tug is on Ashok's mad wife sets fire to the house and burns herself to death. That sends the tall mother-in-law rushing to Asha's house in repentant affection. Asha naturally changes her mind about dying and the picture ends with a song over a shake-hand.

POOR STORY & DIRECTION

The picture fails in its story, screenplay and direction. The story had an emotional theme but it needed subtle, intelligent and imaginative development. All that seems to have gone beyond Hasrat Lakhnavi. The story lacks drama.

The director seems to have lost his time and intelligence on the technical aspect of direction, leaving the human drama to the characters themselves.

Technically the picture is beautiful, photography being the best part of it. Recording of songs is a bit defective, the songs losing the support of the orchestral music. A couple of tunes are quite attractive but the rest of the tunes are old and familiar. The songs are well written but not always well sung. The direction of Fali Mistry is poor and unimaginative. He has used the sets better than the characters. The sets are rich and the general decor very lavish.

Nimmi, as the dumb girl, easily gives the best performance, though she has been photographed with her nose lifted in the air. Had the camera level been raised Nimmi would have looked more attractive. The girl, however, is a gem of an artiste and does her bit beautifully.

Dev Anand plays Ashok rather indifferently. This boy should learn to use his arms in a natural manner and not propel himself instead of walking with his feet.

Shyama looks pretty and smart as Kamini, the rich girl, but she lacks the finesse and sophistication usually associated with the role she plays. She speaks her dialogue mechanically without any feeling behind the words. That makes her whole performance mechanical.

Singh has a very small role to play even though he sports a big moustache. He does it well, especially when he throws down the sissy with a big sneeze. Durga Khote is superfluous. In her small sequence with Nimmi, the little girl beats the old woman hollow.

Lalita Pawar, a good artiste usually, suffers due to lack of proper direction. Gope and Mukri fail to entertain, the situations given to them being too flimsy and obvious.

"Sazaa" is a monument of lavish expense on poor story material and very poor directorial talent. Let us hope Producer G. P. Sippy takes a better story and a better director next time.

S A Z A A

Producers:	**G. P. Productions**
Language:	**Hindustani**
Story & Dialogue:	**Hasrat Lakhnavi**
Lyrics:	**Rajendra Krishna**
Music:	**S. D. Burman**
Photography:	**Jal Mistry**
Audiography:	**Robin Chatterjee**
Cast:	**Nimmi, Dev Anand, Shyama, Gope, Durga Khote, K. N. Singh, Mukri & Lalita Pawar.**
Released at:	**Roxy, Bombay**
Date of Release:	**11th April 1952**

Directed By:
FALI MISTRY.

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OUR REVIEW

"Parbat" Causes Sickening Boredom!

Romance Over A Mousy Heroine!

Here is some very unpalatable stuff which Director O. P. Dutta seeks to make palatable by being smart. At the outset he announces that the story of "Parbat" is purely a product of the writer's imagi nation and has no relation to Indian life or culture. This trick to fool the Censors seems to be in vogue these days, the way it was found in "Jadoo", "Shabistan", "Hangama" and perhaps others.

But this trick and many others do not add to the quality of a picture. The fact remains that "Parbat" is a cheap Indian version of Hollywood Westerns, in which people nourish feelings of revenge and passion for decades, speak the language of guns and fists and are bestowed with either condemnable lust or commendable first sight love.

Incidentally, are the things in the world really so bad that Dutta had to take 'Sacredness of the honour of woman' as the main theme for his story and preach it with the directness of a sermon? We are afraid, as far as sermonising on the Sanctity of Woman is concerned Dutta is late on the scene by scores of centuries.

However, this is the theme round which the story of "Parbat" revolves. There live two clans, one atop a hill the other at the foot, in a valley. There is an old feud between the two clans, which had started when one of the clansmen from the valley went to the hill and was shot dead by a lad for attempting to dishonour a woman.

This disgraceful valley-man had a younger brother, Rana and a sister, Parbat, living in the valley. One day Rana and Parbat wandered near the hill and shot down a deer. While they are about to carry their prey home they face a young man, Pahari, accompanied by one of his clansmen Dalpat. On some argument arising as to who actually killed the deer Pahari tries to settle it out by thrashing Parbat's brother, Rana. Finding Pahari preoccupied with Rana, Dalpat presents with compliments his amorous attentions to Parbat, rather in a hurry.

Pahari, however, comes to the rescue of Parbat and drives Dalpat off. With Dalpat gone and Rana, the brother, lying unconscious nearby, Pahari and Parbat send out to each other feelers of love. On making sure they are both equally smitten by love, Pahari goes away promising Parbat a love mission to the valley.

He keeps his word. But Parbat's brother smells the rat and tells his sister that this Pahari was none other than the lad, who, ten years ago, had killed their eldest brother. Filled with family-honour Parbat vows to help her brother in killing Pahari. She makes a vain effort half-heartedly, after which Pahari tries to explain how he had shot her brother in order to defend a woman's honour. Parbat does not seem to believe this but all the same allows herself to be carried away to the hill by Pahari.

Pahari's people on the hill do not like Parbat landing amongst them. Dalpat specially instigates people against Pahari, still keeping an evil eye on Parbat.

Mukri, Anwar and Ranjan make merry in "Baghi", a powerful melodrama directed by Anant Thakur for Time Films.

Rehana plays another vivacious role in "Rangeeli", a love tale directed by Najam Naqvi for M. & T. Ltd.

Dalpat's sister Naina is also disconcerted at the presence of Parbat as Naina cherished an older and warmer love for Pahari since her childhood.

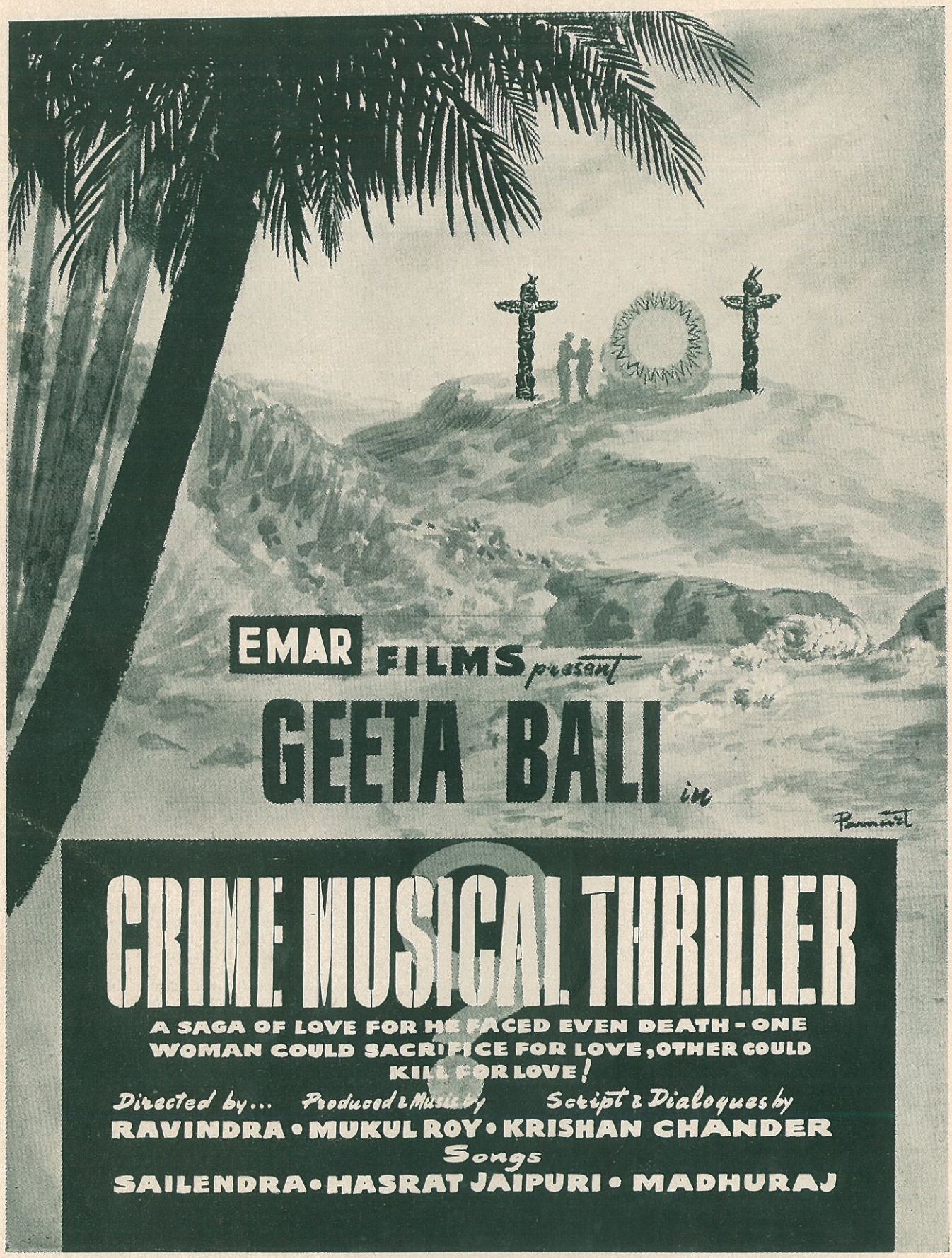
Meanwhile, Parbat's brother, Rana, commences a regular invasion of the hill in order to recapture Parbat. We are told that the hill-folks and the valley-folks keep firing at each other for a few days. Finally the battle ends and the hill people come out victorious.

A little away from the scene of the battle Dalpat with a one-track-mind is on the heels of Parbat. Somehow Parbat's brother Rana also manages to creep into the scene and is tied up by Dalpat who now picks up Parbat and carries her off only to be confronted by his sister Naina who asks him to leave Parbat alone at the point of a rifle. On Dalpat's refusal to do so, Naina shoots her brother and in return Dalpat shoots his sister. Evidently it is time for Pahari to appear on the scene. And he does. Before the dying Dalpat could aim his gun at Pahari, Rana who in the meantime had freed himself, shoots down Dalpat finally and for good.

With Naina and Dalpat dead and Rana a wiser man, admitting his brother's killing as justified, Pahari and Parbat presumably live on to love each other.

POOR ALL ROUND !

Dutta's story is hackneyed to the point of stinking and Aga Jani Kashmiri could not make it more tolerable. The whole picture has an atmosphere of stupidity and nobody betrays this feeling more than the characters. Moving about in ludicrously fantastic costumes the whole lot of them look oppressed and helplessly funny.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The picture has nothing to offer even by way of production values. Photography is poor and it seems an over-emphasis has been laid on key-light falling from above with the result that apart from doing their ugliest all the artistes look their ugliest too. Recording is worse, sometimes completely distorting the artiste's voice.

Shankar and Jaikishen have doled out old stuff, though two songs did sound catchy at the time. Lyrics are in keeping with the general standard of the picture.

Though Dutta is to blame for all the inherent and resulting stupidities of the story, his direction is not so bad.

Nutan plays Parbat and looks a mouse. The girl has a sufficiently sensitive face and a sincerity of purpose but with her bony figure and immaturity she hardly looks the hill-woman over whom anyone would start blood feuds.

Prem Nath speaks his dialogue with nonchalance as though he was doing a skit on the stage of St. Xavier's College. Ullhas, K. N. Singh and Raj Mehra seemed to be contesting for an award by Director Dutta for a Shouting Championship and Ullhas wins the prize in a neck to neck race.

In conclusion "Parbat" is far from agreeable and should be avoided unless specifically prescribed by a doctor.

PARBAT

Producers:	**Varma Films**
Language:	**Hindustani**
Story:	**O. P. Dutta**
Screen Play:	**Aga Jani Kashmiri**
Music:	**Shankar & Jai Kishan**
Lyrics:	**Hasrat Jaipuri & Shailendra**
Photography:	**Jamshed R. Irani**
Audiography:	**Shanti Swaroop**
Cast:	**Prem Nath, Nutan, Purnima and K. N. Singh etc.**
Released At:	**Minerva, Bombay.**
Date of Release:	**21st March 1952.**

Directed By:
O. P. DUTTA.

OUR REVIEW

"Hangama", Hackneyed Hotchpotch !

Maiden Picture With Old Whiskers !

Gope Productions' maiden offering has proved a misfire. Its failure lies in the selection of a rotten story. The story is written by O. P. Dutta, who also wrote the story of 'Parbat'. Based on almost identical material, Dutta produced two stories in "Hangama" and "Parbat" and seemed to have fooled two producers. This guy Dutta is reported to be an M. A. in history. It's a pity he did not put to use his certified knowledge. If he had to dole out two costume stories, why couldn't he pick out two nice heroic tales from Indian history, in the study of which he must have presumably spent quite a few years? Instead, he has fallen back on Hollywood to use it as a crutch and turned out cheap thrillers with guns and gangsters. And no amount of moralising can save such stories.

This is so stupid a story that even its reconstruction is odious. Makhan and Bhola are two friends. They are shown employed in a restaurant. Bhola is honest to the point of being stupid, while Makhan is smart to the point of being a crook and thus strikes a balance. Bhola's text-bookish approach to honesty in life brings a lot of trouble and they find themselves kicked out of the restaurant where they worked. Makhan applies his own methods to solve their food problem by picking a pocket. Bhola adheres to honesty and they get into trouble once again.

Bhola and Makhan quarrel and part for a while but soon join together and wandering, reach a peculiar township situated somewhere in Dutta's imagination. Though the culture and life of this township are purely a product of the writer's brain, stretching our own imagination we know that it is Texas in India, with all the male-folks in town wearing twin six-shooters about their girdle all the time.

This town has a hotel proprietor Moti, his chief henchman Mama, a law-breaker Hira, a sheriff and a woman Ratna. Moti and Hira are step-brothers and they don t like each other. Supported by their henchmen they often indulge in shooting affrays. Throughout the picture Hira and Moti, each supported by his gang keep on scheming and planning, attacking and counter-attacking, God only knows for what earthly reason.

The poor Sheriff only talks about bringing law and order to the town but he is soon done away with by one of Hira's men. Evidently this town does not believe in freedom of speech, even if it be the speech of the Sheriff regarding law and order in town.

Here Makhan and Bhola find employment in Moti's hotel and join the ranks of his supporters. Like shuttlecocks they keep on flitting from one place to another, may be for Rajinder Krishin's rhymes but certainly for no other reason.

With the Sheriff killed, fresh elections take place for a new Sheriff. Wishing to apprehend the late Sheriff's murderer with the help of the law, Moti gets himself nominated for Sheriffship. He is almost elected by an electorate which seems to love him more than Indians did Gandhi, when on a point of convention Hira objects to it as Moti is unmarried. Moti promises to get married within twentyfour hours so as to be qualified for the Sheriff's chair and throws a glance at his waiting sweetheart Ratna, the late Sheriff's daughter. Hira, of course, gets Ratna kidnapped for twenty-four hours, so that Moti does not get elected Sheriff.

Love vibrates to the tune of the flute when Nimmi meets Prem Nath in "Mehman" a love tale directed by Ramanand Sagar and produced by Asha Biswas for Sagar.

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Shakila and Shyama make a naughty team in "Khushboo" a social story produced by Beautiful Pictures.

With the law thus gone out of his hands Moti plainly accuses Hira of all the devilry and accepts a challenge from Hira to fight a duel the next day. This was the one wise decision and we wonder why they didn't think of it earlier.

The next day the duel takes place and the two champions spend all of their twelve bullets without killing a fly. As they prepare to do with bare hands what they could not do with bullets, the entire town arrives there and drives both of them out of town declaring them outlaws.

At home Mama, Moti's chief supporter, plots Hira's murder whose hideout he knows. Makhan and Bhola, our two starting characters who have been miserably swallowed up by the story, come to know of this plot and they rush to inform Ratna that if this murder plot succeeds, it is sure to put a thick rope round Moti's neck. Naturally, Ratna rushes to Hira's hideout and lying in Hira's place receives the knife which was intended for Hira. However her supreme sacrifice is rewarded and she recovers from the wound, Moti returns to town and Hira reforms and it all ends just like that.

NO SEX-APPEAL !

Production values are uninspiring except photography which is not so bad.

Recording is poor. The sets have neither art, nor even a general appeal. C. Ramchandra's music is flat except one song 'Jhoom Jhoom'. Rajinder Krishin's lyrics have beards. The dialogue is unnecessarily high-sounding at places.

Ram Kamlani's direction is certainly incapable of lifting a rotten story up even by half an inch nearer the average level.

Gope and Yakub make a sorry pair of comedians. Both these guys are not natural comedians, Gope having a crafty blackmarketeer's face while Yakub looks like a Bhendi Bazaar character. They are not comedians in looks like Laurel, Hardy, Red Skelton or Bob Hope. Gope and Yakub have to be provided with humorous situations to contrast with their serious faces. The joke must be always against them to create humour in a picture. As these boys are not natural fun makers, they fail in this picture in which the story does not provide them with any scope for their peculiar talent.

Nutan is a complete misfit in the story. She looks like an overgrown school girl and is still too immature in figure and expression to add any sex-appeal to the picture. Every time Nasir Khan embraces her one gets the awkward impression of his having squeezed a nursery doll and her love scenes with the hero look like so many precocious acts lacking the warmth and understanding of maturity.

Nasir Khan makes a heavy-eyed hero, more anxious for sleep than for a Snow White. He frets all the time in sheer frustration and talks of high ideals without any practical approach towards them. K. N. Singh is cast in his usual rough mould where he has to grunt and growl in the midst of a crowd of goondas. David looks the shortest Texan in India and because he is called "Mama", a word that excites a conditioned reflex in him, he reproduces a bit of the heat he had radiated in "Draupadi" years ago. Cuckoo, the fastest hip-shaker east of Suez, is simply nauseating.

"Hangama" failed when Producer-director Ram Kamlani took up O. P. Datta's story for production.

HANGAMA

Producers:	**Gope Productions**
Language:	**Hindustani**
Story & Screenplay:	**O. P. Dutta**
Dialogue:	**Jagdish Kanwal**
Music:	**C. Ramchandra**
Songs:	**Rajinder Krishin**
Photography:	**Pandurang Naik**
Sound:	**M. S. Chitnis & Damle**
Cast:	**Nutan, Nasir, K. N. Singh, David, Raj Mehra and Gope and Yakub etc.**
Released At:	**Lamington, Bombay**
Date of Release:	**21st March 1952**
Directed By:	**RAM KAMLANI**

Back to the back-to-back romance Kishore Kumar and Rehana scratch each other in "Chham Chhama Chham", a musical entertainer directed by Santoshi for Mohan Studios.

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OUR REVIEW

"Rani" Draws Crowds In Madras!

Bad Tamil Version of "Loves of Carmen"!

"Rani" is a bad Tamil version of "Loves of Carmen" or shall we call it a better Tamil version of Kardar's "Jadoo"? Of course, with the usual amateurish tinkering, quite a few liberties with the original have been taken to give "Rani", an original complexion of its own. The changes, however, do not succeed in hiding the family tree.

Ranjani, the infant daughter of the king of Mangalapuri, is kidnapped by a band of gypsies, on the day of stamping the royal coat of arms on her back. Renamed Rani, the child grows up into a consummate and lovely gipsy dancer.

Vijayan, an army cadet, meets Rani and they soon start throwing eyes and hearts at each other. Rani disturbs the peace near the Army Commander's residence and Vijayan is ordered to take Rani into custody. Vijayan, however, helps her to escape.

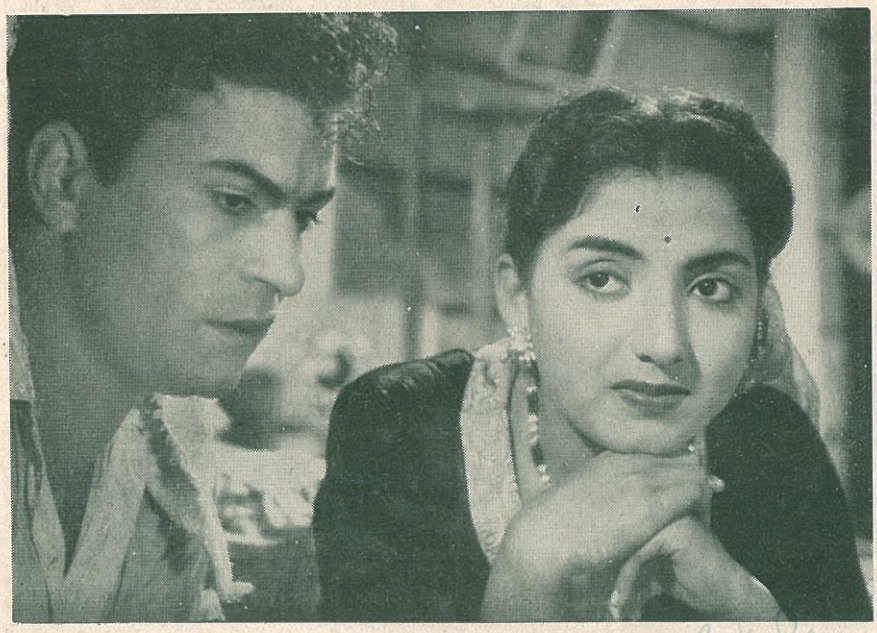
For conniving at Rani's escape, Vijayan is punished and assigned sentry duty. To save him from disgrace, Rani practises her wiles on the Army Commander and succeeds in having the sentence remitted. Enraged at being outwitted by the girl, the Army Commander pursues Rani and Vijayan to the abode of the gypsies where during a fight between Vijayan and himself, the Commander is foully done to death by the gypsy chieftain, who foists the crime on Vijayan, as he has himself been casting covetous glances on Rani.

With a price on his head, Vijayan flees away with Rani into the hills but is discovered by the gypsy chieftain with the avowed object of handing over Vijayan to the authorities, which would enable him to secure Rani for himself. After the usual hide and seek sequences, Vijayan is taken prisoner and condemned to be hanged.

The king in the meanwhile had become a misanthrope and a cynic. He had acquired the sadistic habit of making a new girl as a queen for a day, and sending her to the gallows next morning. As a last brave attempt, Rani becomes queen for a day, tricks the gypsy chieftain into confessing his crime of murder of the Army Commander and hands him over to the authorities for being dealt with according to law.

Through a few careless words of the gypsy, Vijayan learns that he held a secret which could save Rani from the dire fate which would befall her the next morning. Vijayan compels the gypsy to reveal the secret of her being the king's own daughter and she is so identified. At the same time the king's minister makes the further revelation that all the girls who had been made queens for a day had been saved from death through his own stratagem. With the wicked punished and the virtuous exalted to their rightful places, the story ends in a happy atmosphere.

With a ready made story and a ready made film, it is rather presumptuous for the producer to have tried to make improvements which result in the film descending from the sublime to the ridiculous at places. When the royal sign is to be branded on the infant princess, a number of girls execute an eyeful dance with swaying hips and heaving breasts and we are asked to believe that the baby



Sajjan has a problem on mind with carefree Bimla making things interesting in "Sheesha", produced by Umar Ansari and directed by Shahid Lateef for Asian Pictures.

Usha Kiran does not know how inviting she is in "Jhanjar" a social story produced by C. Ramchandra and directed by Kidar Sharma.

appreciates the dance and forgets its pain and tears.

When the princess is rocked to sleep in a cradle, half a dozen women standing round the cradle raise an inferno of noise instead of singing a lullaby. The stupid looking king pulls idly at a rope attached to the cradle, which seems to be a piece of furniture rescued from the Chor Bazaar.

The abduction of the child is far from convincing. The gypsy chieftain scales walls to gain access to the place where the child sleeps and with the child in his arms, he disappears over the balustrade. As to how he reaches the ground again is left unexplained.

BHANUMATI SCORES

There are numerous little flaws in the picture and yet the story moves pretty well mainly because of its borrowed original base. The producers of "Rani" hardly do any thinking of their own and where they attempt to do so, they end by being ridiculous.

What would have otherwise been an ordinary picture is lifted head and shoulders above its class by the versatile and brilliant acting of Bhanumati, who actually walks away with the picture. She plays the role of an uninhibited gypsy girl to perfection, as though to the manner born. Towards the latter part of the picture, when the hoyden has to give

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MAN REVOLTED AGAINST HIS LORD,
BUT BLOOD NEVER DID SO AGAINST BLOOD,
And thus MOTHER SAVED HER CHILD!

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Music
B. N. BALI

Photography
M. R. RAJU

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place to a "queen", her acting is restrained and full of dignity. It is also easy to see that in a large way she has been given the freedom to interpret her role in the way she thought best and that makes it so convincing and original.

The role of Vijayan is played by S. Balachandar in a sincere manner. Casting is also appropriate for indeed he looks like a person to whom a good-looking gypsy girl could lose her heart. Love scenes between him and Rani are very well acted, being neither stilted nor effusive.

The gypsy chieftain is a ponderous individual with a ponderous name, Raja Wahab Kashmiri. A veritable mountain of a man, he should have been the last person to attempt to abduct a child from the king's palace, for even when he is in repose, his weight would make itself felt. Speaking Tamil with a curious accent, which is, however, not repulsive, he is inclined to be theatrical and often indulges in bits of overacting. He looks neither like a bully nor a coward and it is hard to say why he killed the Army Commander by stabbing him in the back or murdered in cold blood his wife Bala.

S. V. Subbiah as the king is a piece of mockery. He belongs more to the royal stables. C. S. D. Singh as the Army Commander is a disgusting piece of casting. He is not even fit to be a camp-follower.

And after all said and done, "Rani" should make money at the box-offices, thanks to a popular story and an excellent performance by Bhanumati.

RANI

Producers:	**Jupiter Pictures**
Language:	**Tamil**
Lyrics:	**U. N. Kavi & others**
Music:	**C. R. Subbaraman**
Cast:	**Bhanumati, Lakshmiprabha, Angamuthu, S. Balachandar, Kashmiri & C. S. D. Singh**
Released At:	**Paragon, Madras**
Date of Release:	**26th April 1952.**

Directed By : **PRASAD**

OUR REVIEW

"Kumari", A Terrible Tamil Torture !

Flop That Chases Out Audience !

Consisting of a number of sequences and incidents unblushingly borrowed from other pictures and apparently having no other objective than providing cheap and tinsel entertainment, this picture can be straightaway classified as a flop.

Conforming to the hackneyed pattern of imaginary kings and queens, the mainspring of action derives from the fact that king Jayachandra was murdered by his own brother Pratap who seizes the kingdom. Vallabhan, a faithful servant of the murdered king, flees from the palace taking with him Vijayan, the infant son of Jayachandra. Unknown to every one else, the child is brought up by Vallabhan in a forest and led to believe in his humble origin.

Kumari, daughter of Mandhara, King of Khosala, is saved from an accident while journeying through the forest, by Vijayan. Invited by her, he takes service under Mandhara, when love blossoms between Vijayan and Kumari, of which the king approves. The king's young wife, Chandravali, has other plans of marrying her stepdaughter Kumari to her brother Sakharan and has hopes of persuading the king to her point of view. To get rid of Vijayan, Chandravali, after enticing him to her chamber, accuses him of having made indecent overtures to her, as a result of which he is flogged publicly and chased away from the kingdom.

Rescued by a band of gypsies, he lives with them in the forest. One of the gypsy girls falls in love with him while another predicts he would be a king. Vallabhan chances on Vijayan. Together with the gypsies a plan of action is evolved to bring the guilty Pratap to book and to rehabilitate Vijayan into his own.

To achieve her object, Chandravali has Kumari imprisoned in a secret dungeon under the watchful eye of her brother Sakharan. Kumari eludes his vigilance and makes good her escape, when cornered, by jumping into a river. Rescued from a watery grave by a fisherman who wishes to marry her, she succeeds in escaping from him also only to be recaptured. Deliverance comes to her through Sakharan.

Aided by the gypsies, the Hamletian play within a play is staged in the presence of Pratap which retells the story of the murder of King Jayachandra. Pratap protests against the insinuation, is challenged by Vijayan and brought to book. Mandhara is also there and the entire truth of Vijayan's descent and the machinations against him are brought to light. All else is butter and jam.

STUPID AND ILLOGICAL

The opening sequence of Kumari riding all alone through a forest in a coach is entirely unconvincing as though any princess would undertake such a journey without proper escort. The averting of the accident by Vijayan betrays imbecile direction, at which any director would have blushed twenty years ago.

Attaching a stupid brother to a queen appears to have become a pleasant pastime with our producers and the queen also runs true to type in that she would have her step-daughter married to her idiotic brother, with her husband dissenting. The whole thing has been conceived in such an absurd manner that the producer should have been blind not to realize that it would fall flat on the audience.

The king's wife Chandravali, again, taunts the king for having married such a young and beautiful wife as herself, when he was himself very old. She unburdens herself in Song No. 8 of these feelings. The suggestion is obvious.

Addressing Vijayan whom she has enticed into her chamber, while executing a very suggestive dance she sings, "Have you come here to drink of the love (lust?) of a sweet young woman? Has the fact that an old man has married me spurred you on, aided by my youthful loveliness?"

There have been a nmber of queens who have proved false to their marriage vows but not even a street strumpet would extend such a blatant invitation to a paramour.

Kumari, while imprisoned in a dungeon, makes her escape from Sakharan by jumping into a river. She is next seen being rescued by a fisherman. As to how

Shekhar doesn't tell a new story to Roopmala in "Chamkee", a social theme produced by National Film Circuit.

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NARGIS

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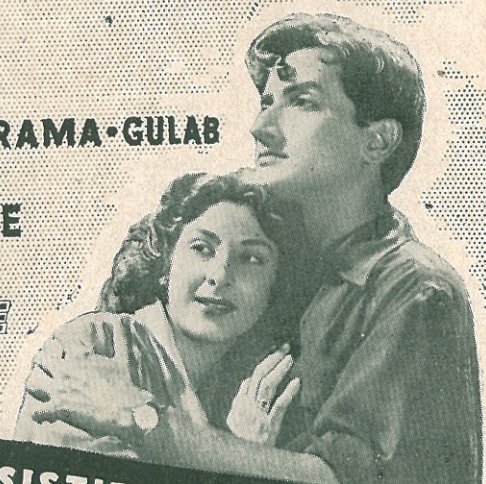
Music:

ROBIN CHATTERJEE



Strange ... Strange HER IRRESISTIBLE LOVE!
Dark ... Dark HER INESCAPABLE FEARS!

KRISHIN MOVIETONE

Directed by:

RAM DARYANI

BLAZE

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long the river refused to drown her is left to one's imagination.

Perhaps the greatest injustice is done to the gypsies. They speak a language which has never before been spoken on this earth and is never likely to be, as though any odd jumble of sounds would suit the purpose. Let alone the dialogue, the gypsies are supposed to sing a song (Song No: 10) which is nothing more than an odd mixture of unintelligible sounds and scarcely does credit to the imagination of the song writer or the director. Side by side with this, there is the song in Tamil sung by the gypsy girl Jikki who has fallen in love with Vijayan. These two are irreconcilable unless it be that the gypsies make use of Tamil for love making even though Tamil as a language is eminently unsuited for the purpose.

M. G. Ramchandran as Vijayan is a thorough misfit. He looks more like a coachman than a disinherited prince. Sriranjini Jr. has chosen the wrong profession as she is neither capable of acting nor of forceful speech. Madhuri Devi as Chandravali is wrongly cast as she is better fitted to play the role of a vamp, in the familiar mould, than in the garb of a queen. Beyond rolling her eyes and raising her voice to express anger or displeasure, she is innocent of acting. Stunt Somu as Vallabhan looks like a vagrant from a starving theatrical company who would not hesitate to pawn his wig for a glass of bootleg liquor.

Anything from a beret to a basket to hide the shining spot on the top! Kishore Sahu tries the smaller contrivance in "Hamari Duniya", a social story directed by Sushil Sahu for Hindustan Chitra.

The idiotic Sakharan is played by T. S. Dorairaj and fits the role very well because the type portrayed is the common detestable one.

Photography is poor and in the dungeon scene Sriranjini looks like a corpse that has been dug up from the grave a week after the burial. The dialogue is below average and the songs are loose words strung together on uninviting musical notes. The recording is good. "Kumari" is a picture that deserves to remain canned—eternally!

KUMARI

Producers: **Padmanabhan Productions**
Language: **Tamil**
Story: **R. Padmanabhan**
Dialogue: **M. S. Santhanam etc.**
Lyrics: **M. P. Sivan and others**
Music: **K. V. Mahadevan**
Cast: **M. G. Ramchandran, Stunt Somu, T. S. Dorairaj, Madhuri Devi and Sriranjini Jr.**
Released at: **Gaiety, Madras**
Date of Release: **11th April 1952.**
Directed By:
R. PADMANABHAN.

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OUR REVIEW

"Pasher Bari", A Scintillating Comedy!

Picture Draws Crowds At Sree !

It is gratifying to note that some of the new entrants in the field of film production in Bengal are showing admirable enterprise in breaking new ground so far as entertainment is concerned. The old stereotyped social pictures that have been presented all these years are proving stale and are fast losing popular appeal. Only social pictures which were backed by strong story material have proved successful and the rest have invariably proved a dismal failure. Besides, the keen competition that is offered to-day by a variety of entertaining pictures coming from other provinces has been affecting the collections of the not-so-good local product. That is why every attempt to break new ground in the production field in Bengal has been hailed by the picturegoers with enthusiasm. Encouraged by this appreciation, quite a few enterprising producers have ventured into the field of dance-cum-musical fantasies based on the Arabian Nights stories. In the wake of these comes the slapstick comedy and the Production Syndicate have captured popular fancy with their very first production "Pasher Bari", a Bengali picture which is enjoying a popular run in Calcutta.

These producers have not only given a new angle to film entertainment but have also taken the risk of introducing a host of new talent, thus providing a welcome change from the old set of artistes who monopolised almost all the pictures produced in Calcutta. Another praiseworthy feature is the introduction of Bengal's popular Radio and Gramophone singer, Dhananjoy Bhattacharjee, whose fine voice thrills the screen.

This is a funny story based on the hectic romance of a boy, Kyabla, and a girl Lily, living in adjacent houses in a certain locality of Calcutta. Kyabla is an idiot. Falling in love with every charming dame and sighing deeply at the very sight of her is a chronic disease with him. That is why when he first sees Lily in a local train travelling in the female compartment, he falls in love with her as usual but cannot gather enough courage to start a conversation.

On getting down from the train at the station he loses sight of the girl in the crowd and returns home disappointed and angry. He has no idea that his dream girl of the train is living next door. Accidentally when he sees her one day in the window of his adjoining house, from which many songs had always regaled him, he is in his seventh heaven, but his enthusiasm receives a rude shock when he sees her with a broom in one hand and a whip in the other calling him names. Poor Kyabla is frightened but cannot help loving her. Regardless of consequences he plans to advance, but gets nothing except insults from the other side. Besides, he cannot bear the sight of Lily making love to Shyam Sundar, her music teacher. He seeks the advice of his good-for-nothing friends headed by Bhombalda. Bhombalda with his other two associates study the situation carefully and induce Kyabla to adopt a novel ruse to win the girl. They suggest that he should sing his way into her heart. As Kyabla could not sing they invite Swapna Kumar to lend his voice while Kyabla stands in his window and moves his lips.

The trick works and the charm of Kyabla's voice draws Lily towards him and dislike slowly dissolves into love. In this musical competition to win the heart of Lily, Shyam Sunder becomes a strong competitor. The next stage in taming of the shrew starts with a war of wits—a course of neglect mixed with teasing reaches such a climax that one day when Kyabla tries to speak out his mind to Lily, she slaps him. Enraged she also asks Shyam Sunder to teach Kyabla a good lesson. This leads to a fight and Kyabla is badly wounded by the goondas hired by Shyam Sunder. Lily cannot however bear the painful groans of Kyabla who is very badly wounded. Lily repents and goes to nurse his wounds.

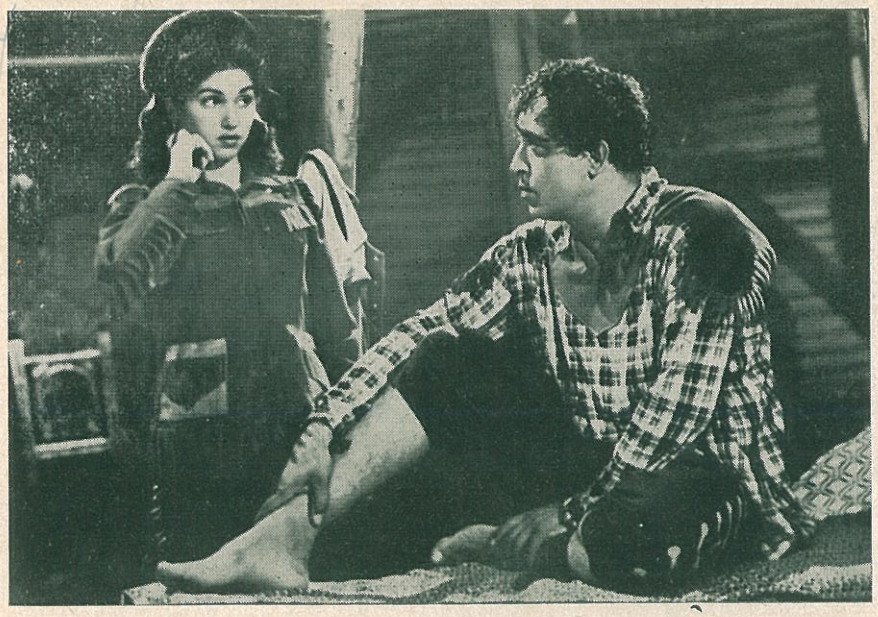
Kyabla soon recovers under the gentle nursing of his sweetheart. This incident rekindles romance which is about to culminate in a wedding when Lily, to her utter surprise, discovers the real mystery of Kyabla's musical talent. The course of love never runs smooth. Lily's pride is hurt and through spite she goes back on her promise and decides to marry Kyabla's aged uncle who is a widower.

This brings about a tragedy in the life of Kyabla who is now landed into an awkward situation. He becomes desperate and consults his friends. They suggest a new plan and acting on their advice he pretends to commit suicide by hanging himself, leaving a note making Lily responsible for his death. The trick works again and when Lily comes to know of this, she rushes to his room screaming all the way. She falls on the "dead" body and swears that she will never marry anybody except Kyabla, who on hearing this jumps into life. Lily keeps her promise.

GOOD DIRECTION

The story of this full length comedy feature is written by Arun Choudhury. The theme as presented on the screen lacks originality as it has a close resemblance to another comedy hit which was produced and released long before. In the present picture the theme and its development have been greatly improved with endless gags and hilarious situations, the credit for which goes to the story writer and the scenarist-director Sudhir Mukerjee. The treatment though not very subtle still moves the story rapidly from situation to situation without much artificiality keeping the audience entertained and laughing with good humour. The picture creates such a riot of laughter from the very start to its final fade-out, that some of the dialogue gets drowned in the uproar. Considering this to be the first directorial assignment of Sudhir Mukerjee, he has done quite a praiseworthy job of it.

Another commendable feature of this film is that it is entirely played by a cast of newcomers and though there is nothing outstanding about their performances, one cannot help admiring their sincere effort. The entire cast actually enters into the spirit of the fun and lives up to it through their respective characterizations. Satya Banerjee, in the role of the love-lorn idiot Kyabla, really puts up a fine performance. He actually lives his part. Bhanu Banerjee, an old-timer as Shyam Sunder, is good in parts but his thunder is stolen by the hero. Sital Banerjee, Amar Choudhury and Anup Kumar, the trio who act as Kyabla's friends-philosophers-and-guides are most amusing. Sabitri Chatterjee as Lily, though a newcomer, acts well and gives a good promise. She is a bit stiff at times but we hope she will soon get over this defect. The director himself plays the



K. N. Singh will frighten any one and the coy, little Purnima is thinking furiously in "Parbat", produced by Varma Films.

role of the old uncle and adds much to the hilarity of the story. Dhananjoy Bhattacharjee as Swapna Kumar has been well cast in the role of the singer and he renders a good account of his musical talent.

The production values leave much scope for improvement though a sincere attempt has been made to achieve the utmost. The settings are in tune with the spirit of the story but the shooting technique is rather unhappy. The photography is good in places and so is the sound recording. Salil Choudhury's music is appropriate and attractive. The singing competition in the adjoining houses forms the highlight of the picture.

"Pasher Bari" is really a clean and refreshing picture full of fun and frolic. Though farcical in parts, it still provides a delightful entertainment that makes one forget his day's worries. The picture will definitely draw well in the city though its chances are not so bright in small stations.

PASHER BARI

Producers: **Production Syndicate**
Language: **Bengali**
Story: **Arun Choudhury**
Music: **Salil Choudhury**
Photography: **G. K. Mehta**
Recording: **Paritosh Bose & Nripen Pal**
Cast: **Satya Banerjee, Sabitri Chatterjee, Arun Choudhury, Sital Banerjee, Anup Kumar & others.**
Released At: **Sree Cinema**
Date of Release: **7th March 1952.**
Directed By:
SUDHIR MUKERJEE.

OUR REVIEW

"Nirakshar" Fails To Attract Attention!

Poor Development Wastes Good Theme!

Purposeful pictures dealing with some social problems affecting our economic existence have often been presented on the Bengali screen. In modern society money is the chief yard-stick by which an individual is judged. It is the ruling power that brings you respect and gets you all that you want. No other virtue, even high education seems to have any value these days. Suprovat Films have tackled this all-important problem in their maiden Bengali picture "Nirakshar" which tries to expose the cruel tragedy of our modern educated youths who are forced by circumstances at times to resort to fraudulent ways to earn a meagre living.

The theme is based on a popular story by Charandas Ghose, which besides being original is full of novel and interesting situations. Gunamoy Banerjee, an experienced director, with a few good pictures to his credit, has written the script and has also directed this picture. It is however surprising that instead of tackling such an important problem in all seriousness, a faulty treatment has turned the whole theme into a crude comedy with the result that the story has become neither a social problem nor a purposeful comedy. In fact there is nothing outstanding in the treatment and the director has preferred to follow the simple and stereotyped method of story-telling without caring much for any technical brilliance or dramatic excellence. The entire plot seems to have been woven around one educated individual Malin and his struggle and frustration in earning a living. And we find two different stories running side by side—the other being the romantic frustration of an educated girl—covering the greater length of the picture without any attempt to blend these together. And when both these stories do meet, the serious social problem is completely lost and the whole thing turns into a broad **farce.**

Malin, the only son of a poor widow, brilliant in studies, is hated by Nibaran the wealthy village zamindar, who was the President of the local school where his own son is also a student. Nibaran can not bear the idea of a beggar's son surpassing his own son in education.

Nibaran, finding Malin and his mother absolutely helpless, has usurped everything that belonged to them making their life miserable. In spite of this, Nibaran's son Bhantu and daughter Sandhya are affectionately fond of Malin's mother. Sandhya goes every morning to Malin to do her lessons and that is why he used to be usually late in attending school. Nibaran could not tolerate this growing friendship between Malin and Sandhya and making his late attendance an excuse he expels Malin from school.

The School Inspector who had noticed Malin's talent is shocked but he manages to take Malin to Calcutta and arrange about his future education. In course of time Malin turns out a bright student of the University and stands first in his M. A. examination and returns to his own village.

The childhood friendship between Sandhya and Malin has now developed into a strong mutual love, but Nibaran does not approve of the same. When Nibaran learns that Malin has returned to the village covered with glory, he gets Sandhya married to another man in a hurry.

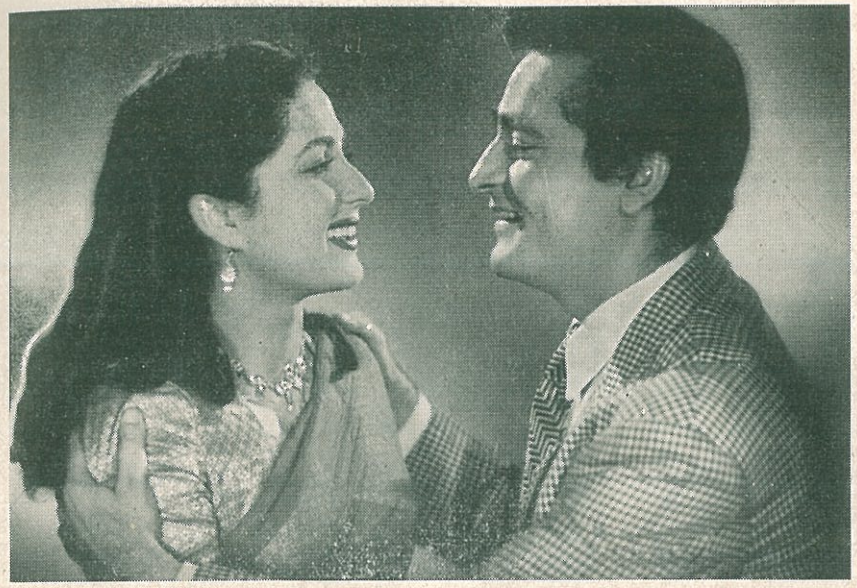
Malin decides to return to Calcutta and look out for a job. He takes fifty rupees from Nibaran against the mortgage of his last shelter, on condition that the amount is returned to him within three months.

At the end of three months, Malin is still without a job due to his high education. In the intervening period he writes a thesis for his P. R. S. and submits it to the University. His resources were coming to an end and he would have to leave the boarding house where he had stayed so long. News also reaches him that his mother was in a precarious condition and he feels sad at his inability to help her.

THE ILLITERATE HUSBAND!

At this point Jharna, the only daughter of Mr. Bose, a wealthy barrister, is compelled to seek an illiterate husband.

This is the canine nose dive in love. It hypnotizes the woman and stops her mind. The way Vijaylakshmi has relaxed, Bharat Bhushan seems to have succeeded in "Farmaish", a love tale produced by J. Om Prakash and directed by B. K. Sagar for Majestic Films.



Bina Rai and Rehman make a new romantic team in "Gohar", a love tale produced by P. N. Arora for All India Pictures.

Performances are quite good. Samar Roy as Malin, the hero, gives quite a convincing performance. It is after a long time that this artiste has given something to talk about but he sadly lacks the glamour that makes a matinee—idol. Sandhyarani, as Sandhya—the illfated village belle, has been wasted as she hardly gets any scope to show her usual acting talent. Smriti Rekha, as Jharna, gives a good performance. She is graceful and looks natural in the role. Chhabi Biswas, as the wealthy barrister, gives his usual smart performance with an easy grace. Suprabha Mukerjee as the hero's mother does a good job of the small role she plays.

There is nothing outstanding in the production values. The photography is, however, quite attractive at places. The recording is erratic while the music is far from being pleasing.

"Nirakshar" had a good basic problem but it misfired because of unimaginative treatment. The film has not aroused much of enthusiasm and has failed to appeal to the picturegoers in general.

NIRAKSHAR

Producers:	**Suprovat Films Ltd.**
Language:	**Bengali**
Story:	**Charandas Ghose**
Music:	**Ajit Bose**
Photography:	**Jayanti Jani**
Recording:	**Abani Chatterjee**
Cast:	**Samar Roy, Chhabi Biswas, Smriti Rekha, Sandhya, Suprabha Mukerjee.**
Released At:	**Chitra**
Date of Release:	**14th March 1952**

Directed By:
GUNAMOY BANERJEE

Jharna a motherless child was taught by a young professor, who introduces himself as a bachelor. In course of time she falls in love with him and their mutual love is almost nearing a climax when Jharna to her utter surprise discovers that her private tutor was not only a married man but was also the father of a couple of children. Jharna receives a rude shock at this fraud and her hopes and dreams of happiness come to an end. A sudden change comes over her and she develops a sort of hatred against education and the so-called educated society. She takes a vow to marry an illiterate man and gives an advertisement in the papers.

Malin who is absolutely in a desperate condition, is attracted by this advertisement which states that the applicant should be willing to stay in the house as a domiciled son-in-law and would be paid only rupees fifty per month as pocket money. Malin out of sheer necessity poses himself as an illiterate and accepts the proposal.

After the marriage the sharp eyed Mr. Bose could not believe that such a smart young man like Malin could be an illiterate. He has his own doubts but Malin's clever deception makes him helpless. Jharna starts teaching her husband to sign his name and she soon realizes the awkwardness of living in a modern society with an illiterate husband.

Just then news reaches Malin that Sandhya had lost her husband and that Nibaran was trying to throw out his mother from the house in which she lived, for the non-payment of the loan. Sandhya intervenes and vehemently objects to her father taking any such drastic step against the poor widow. In the meantime the money is received.

Malin occasionally visits his old boarding house where he gets his letters from the village. In one of the letters his mother expresses a surprise that a man with M.A. (Hons) has to pose as an illiterate to earn a living.

By chance Jharna discovers this letter in Malin's pocket and the real identity of her husband is revealed to her. A few days later Mr. Bose is also surprised to find a photograph of Malin along with the news that he is made the new P.R.S. in the press. However everything ends well and Malin is pardoned for his clever deception. Jharna goes to the village and meets her mother-in-law and also the young widow Sandhya who had loved and lost Malin, to seek the usual blessings.

Asha Mathur plays a good role in "Poonam", a social story of Kayarts produced by P. N. Arora and directed by M. Sadiq.

VIKAS PRODUCTIONS

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RANJAN & SHYAMA

I

★ ★

★ NISHAN

Co-Starring

Jeevan ★ Baby Tabassum ★ Hari Shivdasani ★ Ramesh Sinh

Music: **Basant Prakash** *Lyrics :* **Hasrat Jaipuri & Ra**

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A TALE OF FLAMING LOVE,
THRILLS, DRAMA, SONGS
& DANCES ! ! !

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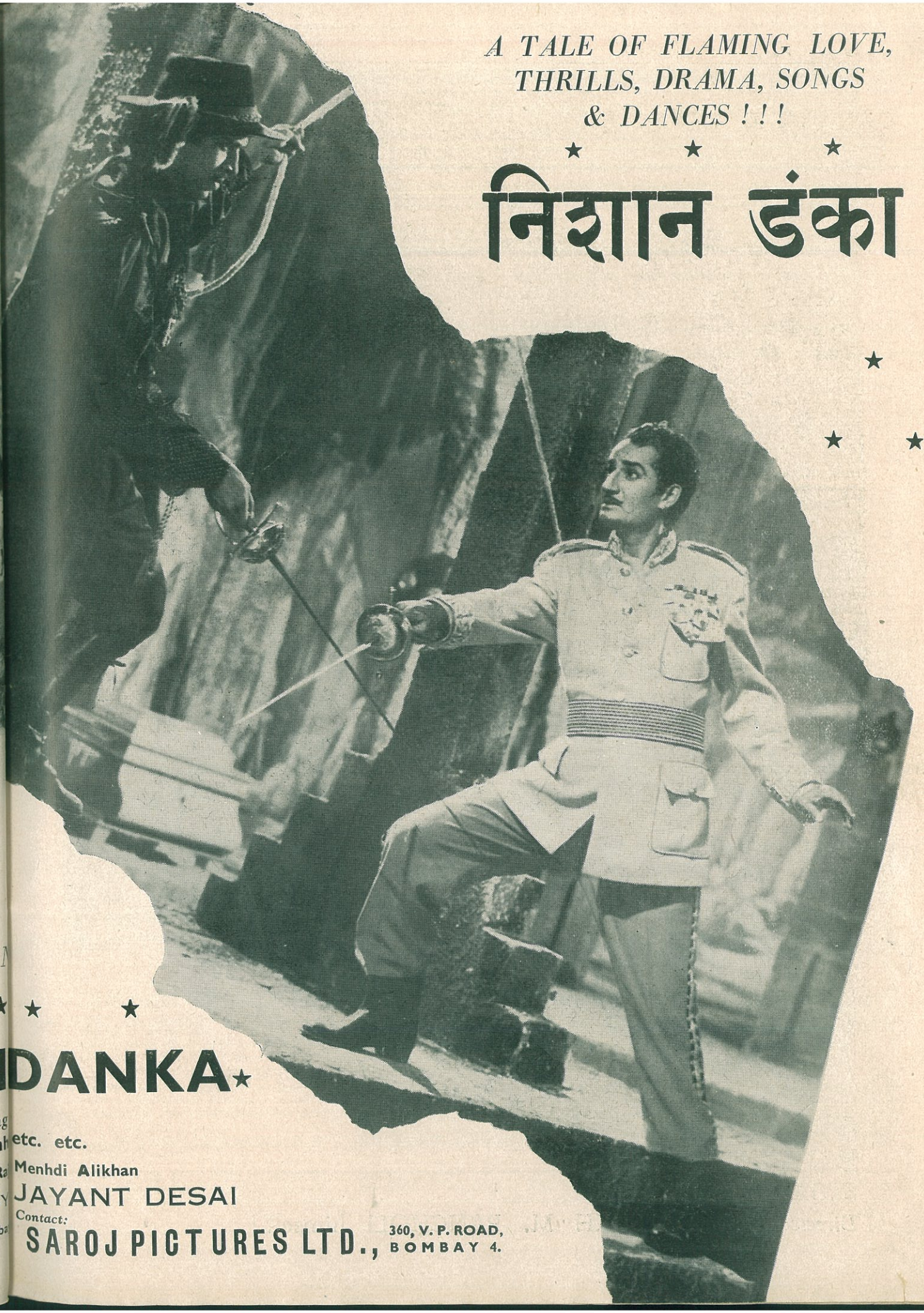
निशान डंका



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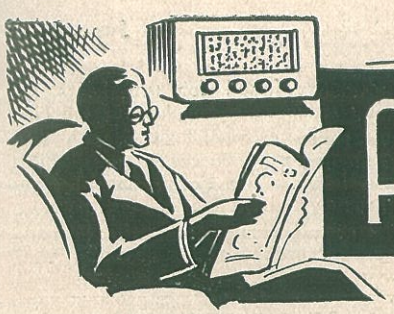

AT HOME AND ABROAD

COMBATING V. D.

Calcutta, April 24.

The Government of West Bengal have suddenly begun to take interest in the social hygiene movement.

The State Social Hygiene Directorate is shortly releasing a 2000-feet Technicolor film depicting the various phases of venereal diseases. The film will be shown to medical students, hospital staff, public health organizations and university students. Explanatory leaflets will also be distributed along with the film.

According to a government health expert, the victims of these fell diseases have been on the increase. Three years ago 50 patients called daily at the 43 V. D. clinics in the state. Today there is a daily average of 1000 patients at the same clinics.

It is, however, doubtful whether such sporadic activity will improve matters with refugees being compelled to seek a living by prostitution. The problem of disease must also be tackled on the economic front.

INSULATED !

London, May 10.

The London Council's Public Control Committee which had objected to the showing of the two documentaries, "Kashmir Conflict" and "Kashmir Story" produced by Pakistan and India respectively during the Festival of Britain in 1951, no longer considers them objectionable.

With exciting events threatening to take place on the Kashmir front, these films of last year must have already become stale.

CULTURAL DAWN !

Nagpur, May 10.

The Council of Ministers of Madhya Pradesh has decided to exempt all dramatic performances throughout the State from payment of entertainment duty, under Section 7 of the Entertainment Duty Act.

This should help the cultural movement and put it on a better footing for the future.

DREAMS COME TRUE !

New York, May 10.

William Fox, founder of the Fox film "empire", died on Thursday the 8th of May at the age of 73.

A Hungarian by birth, Fox immigrated to America and entered films in 1904 as manager of a "Penny Arcade". In 1915 he formed the Fox Film Corporation and from his original capital of 1600 dollars, earned for himself a fabulous fortune of 35 million dollars.

In 1939 the Fox Film Corporation merged with Twentieth Century Pictures forming Twentieth Century-Fox, a 150-million dollar concern which produces 90 pictures and 104 newsreels every year.

And the incentive to build this film empire was that his employer once refused him an increment of three dollars when Bill Fox was working as a clothes presser. Dreams of ambition may take years but to Fox they became realities.

BAN IN NAME !

Karachi, May 2.

The Indian High Commissioner in Pakistan is reported to have induced the Government of Pakistan to lift the unreasonable ban imposed on Indian films starring Prithviraj and Raj Kapoor in Pakistan, which has been in existence for over two years.

In spite of the ban Raj Kapoor's "Barsaat" was shown to crowded houses for weeks all over Pakistan, just as thousands of Filmindia copies are sold these days in Pakistan at ten rupees a copy.

SECOND PRODUCTION !

Hollywood, April 29.

Shirley Temple became a mother of a baby boy weighing 6 pounds and 12 ounces at the Bethesda, Maryland, Naval Hospital. Shirley had to undergo a Caesarean operation but she is all right now.

Married to Lieutenant Commander Charles Black, Shirley has a four-year-old daughter by her first husband John Agar.

EYE WASH !

Bombay, April 21.

The Government of Bombay have called for objections and suggestions in regard to a proposed amendment to the Bombay Entertainments Duty Rules.

The draft amendment already published in Part IV-B of the Bombay Government Gazette, Extraordinary of April 14, provides that every dutiable ticket issued on payment for admission to an entertainment, should show the date and the show for which it is used. Does that prevent printing duplicate tickets?

WHAT PRICE JEALOUSY ?

Hollywood, April 23.

Producer Walter Wanger was found guilty of assaulting Jennings Lang with a deadly weapon. The original charge, however, was that Wanger assaulted the handsome agent with intent to kill.

Jennings was his wife Joan Bennett's agent. On December 13, 1951, Wanger saw him chatting with his wife and suddenly shot him. Jennings had to spend a fortnight in the hospital before he became normal.

Walter Wanger is a popular producer and has been President of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences five times. Now he faces a jail sentence up to ten years or a fine of $5,000 or both.

Women become helpless when you pull their hair and Menaka knows this when she gives a tug to Asha Mathur in "Hamari Duniya", a social story of Hindustan Chitra directed by Sushil Sahu.

HEADING FOR POLICE ACTION !

Mapuca (Goa), May 4.

The Board of Censors at Goa is reported to have banned Rajkamal Kalamandir's "Amar Bhoopali" a Marathi film.

With the Portuguese grip tightening on Goa every day, it must be difficult for these censors to view history of foreign domination in a dispassionate manner.

LOVE FOR JAM!

Cannes, May 9.

Prince Aly Khan has again fallen in love, this time with beautiful brunette film star Irene Papa from Greece.

Though some reports say that they are already engaged, Irene dismissed them by saying: "He likes me and I like him but we are just flirting".

Falling in love seems to be Aly's main passion of life.

AT LAST !

Bombay, April 21.

Mr. B. C. Patil, Additional Custodian of Evacuee Property, Bombay, has denotified the property belonging to film actor Nasir Khan which was declared as "evacuee property".

Nasir Khan first visited Lahore in 1948 when there was no permit system to act in a film there. He returned to Bombay in 1949, obtained a "No Objection" certificate and again went to Pakistan for film work.

Meanwhile his father took ill and as he wanted to rush back to Bombay, without wasting time in legal formalities, he returned to India via Dacca and Calcutta without a permit. This was in March 1950 but by that time his father died.

In October 1951, the Deputy High Commissioner for India in Lahore permitted the permanent resettlement of Nasir Khan and his wife in India but he held that evacuee property proceedings against him might go on.

Nasir Khan appealed to the Additional Custodian of Evacuee Property against the latter part of the order.

Now that the property has been denotified let us hope it is the end of all Nasir's trouble, which made lawyers and solicitors rich for a year and a half.

SCARED !

Washington, D. C. May 1.

Actor Edward G. Robinson, who appeared voluntarily for the third time before the House Un-American Activities Committee, said that he was neither a Communist nor a fellow traveller. He had been duped by Communists because he believed them to be "sincere liberals" at one time.

Acting Chairman Francis Walter seemed convinced that Hollywood's "tough guy" of the screen had been turned into the Communists' No. 1 choice sucker. Robinson wanted his name to be cleared once and for all from this confused Communist tangle.

CITY OF STORMS!

Calcutta, April 26.

Lightning struck a cinema house in Howrah city with a thunderstorm blowing at 61 miles per hour, on the evening of Friday the 25th April, killing three persons and injuring over 50 people. Six of the injured were reported to be in a critical condition.

The lightning pierced the roof and set the screen which was showing a Hollywood picture at that time ablaze. Bricks and masonry fell on the audience seated in the first three rows. The fire was brought under control.

In the confusion that followed many street urchins destroyed the furniture and the installations in the cinema hall. The thunderstorm lasted for two hours dislocating traffic in some parts of the city.

The police arrested 28 persons who were stoning a police cordon outside this cinema house. The Police Commissioner has promulgated Section 144 on this road.

The goonda element seems to be making capital even out of this unfortunate calamity.

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USED WRONG SWITCH !

Klinz, Upper Austria, April 19.

Many are the causes for murder but a 31 year old German worker confessed that he murdered his wife because she refused to turn off the radio.

He said that the noise worried his tired nerves so much that he turned on the gas in the kitchen where his wife slept. He then informed the police that his wife had committed suicide.

QUIT THE WORLD !

London, April 24.

Well-known British actor, Leslie Banks, died in London of cerebral haemorrhage at the age of 61.

A year and a half ago Leslie had collapsed in his dressing room at the Theatre Royal. Since then he had not appeared on the stage.

MISERLY !

Hollywood, April 30.

Hollywood star Ida Lupino gave birth to a premature baby which weighed only four pounds and three ounces. The baby has been christened Bridget.

Ida is at present the wife of actor Howard Duff.

LUCKY GUYS !

Oslo, April 24.

The Norwegian Parliament voted for an increase in the state salaries of 34 Norwegian artists, authors, and composers. From £250, their salaries go up to £322 a year.

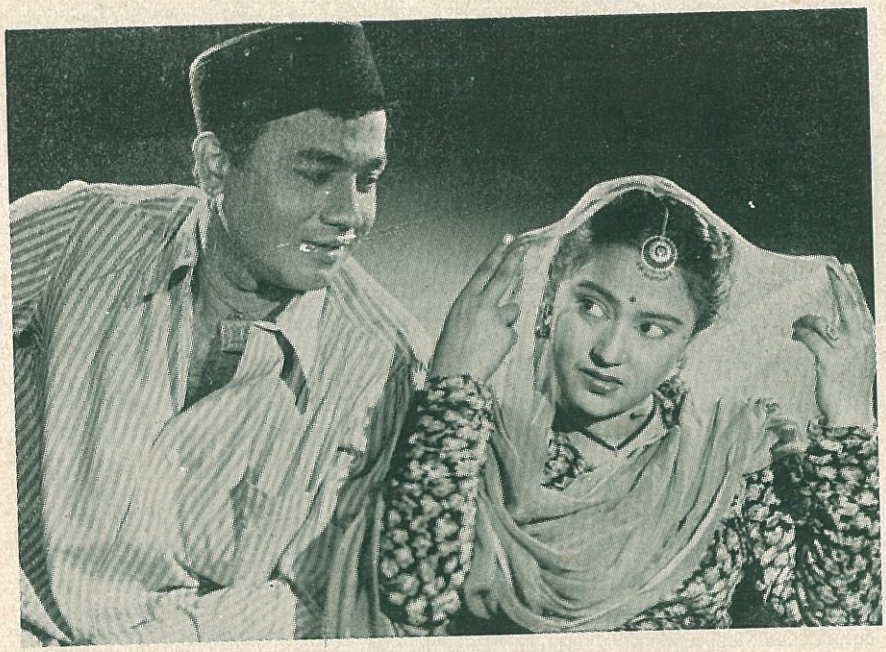
That is a clean rise of £72 a year.

BLESS THEIR SOULS !

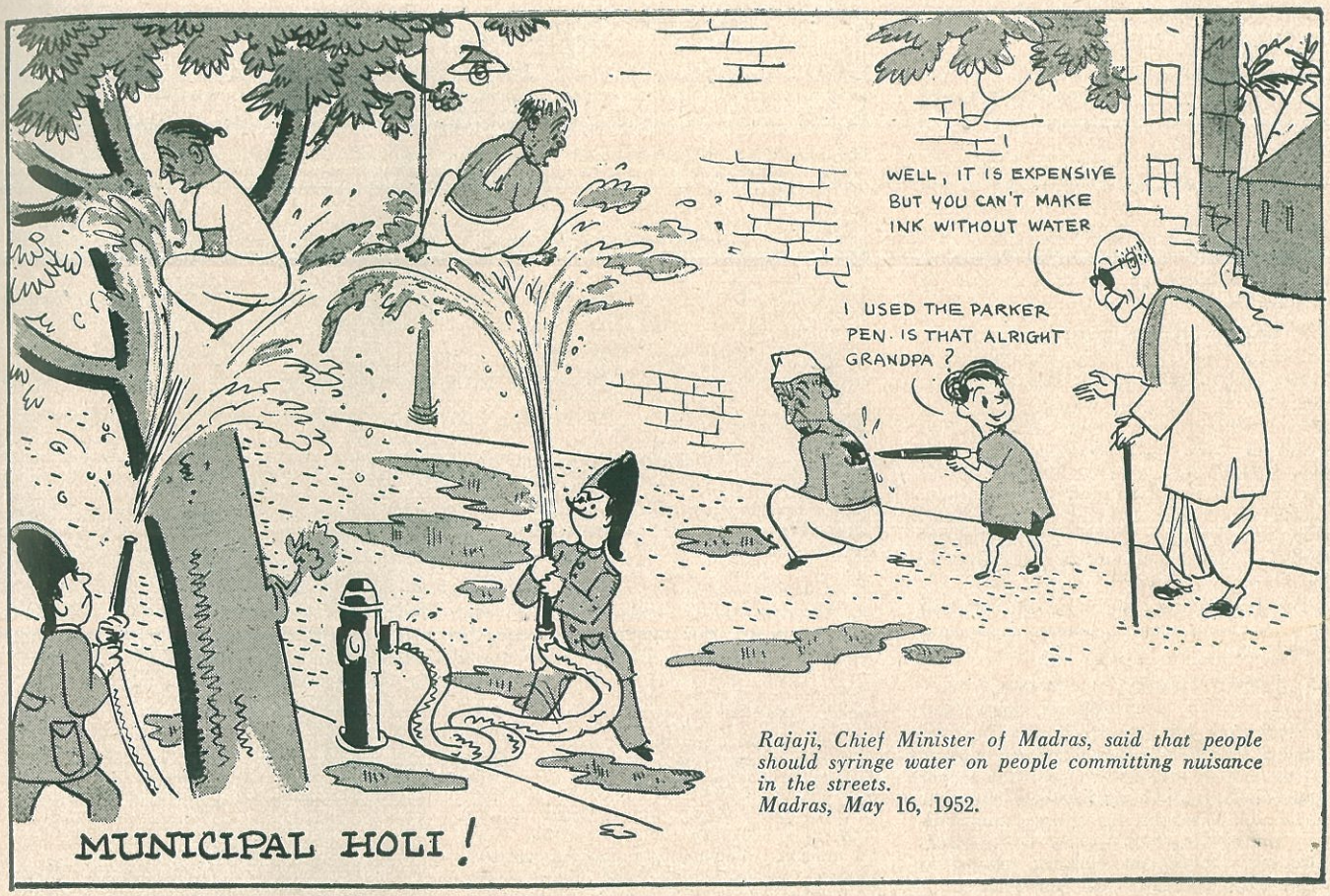
Delhi, May 21.

Producer-director Devendra Goel of Goel Cine Corporation, married Raj Kumari, daughter of Prof. K. L. Sadanah on 20th May at Darya Gunj, Delhi. The wedding was well-attended and Devendra's friends from the film industry wished him all luck and happiness.

Let us hope the new production unit leads to fewer productions and better box-office hits.



That is the shoulder—rub in romance which makes the woman alert and she takes A.R.P. shelter under her dopatta. Here is Sita Bose protecting herself against the fat-eyed Madan in "Jalianwalla Baagh", written and directed by Chowdhari and produced by Famous Pictures.



Rajaji, Chief Minister of Madras, said that people should syringe water on people committing nuisance in the streets.
Madras, May 16, 1952.

TANTALIZING SUSPENSE !

Hollywood, May 9.

Rita Hayworth has again postponed her divorce proceedings against Prince Aly Khan till the completion of another picture.

She had planned to visit Reno after a month's vacation at Mexico. But a call from the studio took her straight to Hollywood where she is starring in another new picture.

BELIEVE IT OR NOT !

Cairo, April 20.

62-year old El Khadi El Hahdrani, a Muslim poet of Yemen, is a prize polygamist and his game of polygamy seems to be still on the move. He has had a wife for each of his 62 years and another 100 as well. Married at the age of 15, he has a wife in Japan, one in India, one in Bali, some in Ethiopia and Italian Somaliland.

Some of his marriages hardly lasted a few months. El Hahdrani has been employed as a court poet by the King of Yemen. The King often pays him a handful of gold coins with which he can get a wife or two.

For all the wives he has married he has only six sons and five daughters. Divorce, of course, is a minute's job with him and he can get rid of a wife by saying "I divorce thee" thrice.

And yet when we write this, the Muslims of India scream in protest.

MAD MAN'S BELOVED !

London, April 28.

Hitler's favourite film star, Leni Reifensthal, has at last won her legal battle whereby she gets possession of her 16-room luxury villa in Berlin's American sector which was till now occupied by 30 refugees from the Soviet zone. She has also been allowed to work in pictures again but the public has not forgotten the role she played in the Nazi regime.

In one of her pictures taken 12 years ago, she was shown wearing a Nazi uniform with a revolver and watching the cold-blooded massacre of Jewish civilians by German troops in a Polish village in 1939. Leni, in the court, admitted "I liked Hitler personally but never accepted his views."

Hitler is reported to have been so fond of Leni that he gave her the exclusive rights to film the 1936 Olympic Games worth £250,000. When the final film version was made, all German cinemas were compelled to show it, though it was four miles long.

BONFIRE !

Bombay, April 20.

A film godown belonging to the National Storage Film Ltd., was completely gutted by fire on Saturday the 19th April. The fire brigade put out the fire quickly. The damage is estimated at Rs. 10,000.

BAD CUTTER ?

Hollywood, April 22.

Film actress Gene Tierney has filed divorce proceedings against Hubby Oleg Cassini.

The dress designer seems to have no new designs left to interest Gene.

ENTERPRISING !

Bombay, April 23.

The police arrested Ramakant Sitaram Soitkar on Tuesday the 22nd April on a charge of alleged cheating. He carried certain documents with him and said that they were executed by big financiers from Raipur in his favour for advancing a sum of Rs. 6 lakhs for film production. He also showed these documents to some persons in Bombay and induced them to become partners in his concern "Film Fantasia" and collected Rs. 15,000|- as preliminary expenses towards the establishment.

Presidency Magistrate R. S. Parikh released Ramakant Soitkar on a bail of Rs 2500|-

LET DOWN

Hollywood, April 24.

Attorney Charles Goldring filed a suit for $130,000 against Judy Garland, for breach of contract.

Judy is said to have engaged Charles to manage her business affairs for five per cent of her earnings but didn't pay him accordingly.

TEACHING THE "FOX" !

Madras, May 4.

Film exhibitors of South India met at a conference on Saturday the 3rd May, to protest against the recent orders of the Madras Government taking powers to control the rates of admission to theatres.

50 delegates requested the Government to withdraw these orders and passed two resolutions. One said that the order affected the "fundamental rights" of the cinema managements and was outside the purview of the Cinematograph Act "which was intended solely to safeguard the safety and health of the patrons." The other was for reducing the present rate of entertainment tax to 12½% of the gross collection.

Let us wait and watch the effect of these resolutions on the Government of Madras.

RELIEVING HIS BURDEN !

London, May 7.

Thieves broke into the spacious nine-room flat of film actor Douglas Fairbanks Jnr., and got away with 4200 dollars worth of cash and jewellery. A month ago, Douglas had another burglary in his flat when he lost 5000 dollars in jewellery. This is the fourth attempt within a year. Observed Douglas, "It's getting monotonous. Soon there won't be anything left for them to take."

But that is the time when the flat will be free of burglaries. Thieves often have a sixth sense.

FIRST TRUSTING WOMAN !

Bombay, May 14.

Presidency Magistrate James Menezes, Bandra Court, Bombay, dismissed a complaint filed by well-known playback singer Amirbai Karnataki against her manager Mr. G. G. Hiremath for alleged misappropriation of Rs. 64,000|-, on the grounds that the complainant was not present in court when the case came for hearing.

According to Amirbai, she had engaged G. G. Hiremath to look after her property worth a lakh and a half. When she scrutinized the accounts, she found that he was not able to account for Rs. 64,000|-.

"PAPI" SAVED !

Bombay, May 14.

Fire broke out in the Ranjit film studio on Tuesday, 13th May, at Dadar, Bombay, destroying some reels of three pictures "Papi", "Bahadur" and "Footpath". Six fire engines took half an hour to put out the fire. The actual damage is estimated to be in the region of Rs. 20,000|- as fortunately only some rush-prints of three current pictures under production are reported to have been destroyed, their negatives being safe. The damage, however, was covered by insurance.

POLICE FIGHTING "RAVANA"

Akola, May 13.

At a dramatic performance in the village of Sawa, Chikhli Taluka, a stage actor playing the role of Rama was killed by another who was acting Ravana. It was a "Ramleela" show and in mythology the episode ends with Rama killing Ravana, the King of Lanka.

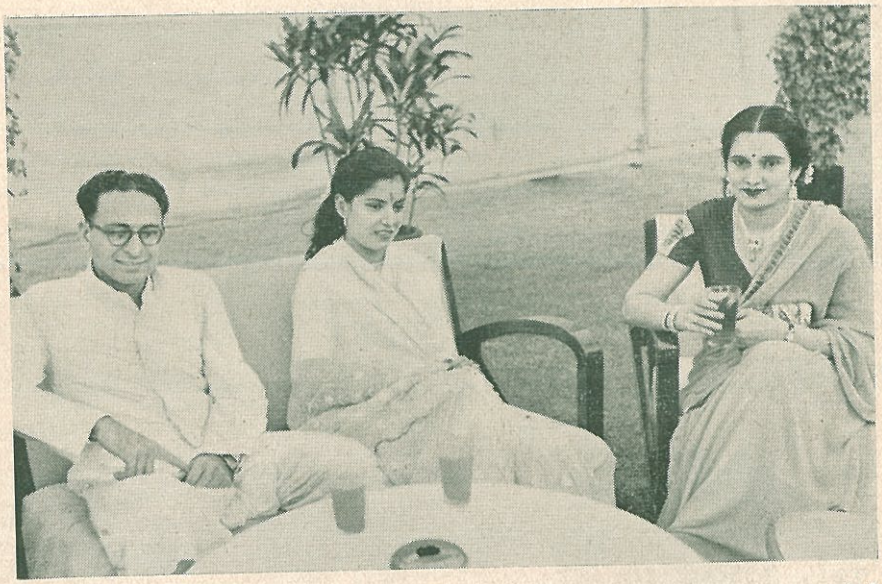
Immediately after the tragedy, the "Ravana" was arrested by the Police. Some gruesome realism this!

OLD ECHO !

Berlin, May 10

A hot controversy is raging about the selection of Germany's national anthem. The wording of the anthem "Deutschland Ueber Alles" is usually sung to the melody of Haydn's Kaiser quartet.

But Dr. Heuss, West German President, has not yet made up his mind because "Deutschland Ueber Alles" used to be sung by Nazis with their own Horst Wessel anthem. Some others misinterpret the phrase, as meaning Germany above everybody else, while it is actually a patriotic call. It is, however, a popular song and deserves to be adopted by virtue of its popularity.



Miss Indira, daughter of Dewan Sharar, screen's popular writer, was married to Abnash Das of Ambala on 18th May 1952. The reception held at the C.C.I. to celebrate the wedding became the most outstanding social event of the month. Here is a guest we all know with the lucky couple. Left to right: Mr. Abnash Das, Miss Indira Sharar and Mrs. Sushila Rani Patel.

MORE SQUEEZING

London, April 17.

In reply to a question put in the House of Commons to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, it was revealed that American film remittances from the British market rose to $5,000,000 in 1951 over 1950 amounting to £8,726,541 ($24,434,314). In 1950 remittances amounted to £6,993,668 ($19,582,270).

DEAR OLD HUGH !

Hollywood, May 1.

Hollywood comedian and vaudeville star, Hugh Herbert, died of a heart attack at the age of 66. Star of many a short feature film, his "Son of Solomon" was among the most popular.

Hugh Herbert also wrote "Side Walks of New York" at Warners and "The Great Garbo", an early talkie.

Just before his death, he worked in a series of short subjects produced by Columbia.

CENSORS TO NOTE !

Sydney, April 27.

The police arrested a fifteen year old boy of Campbelltown who was found terrorizing the neighbourhood invariably after seeing wild west films.

His activities included drinking and shooting. He would get into a hotel and sometimes order as many as eight beers. Then he would hide behind the golf course and shoot with a 22 rifle at motorists, train drivers and golfers.

For the next two years, he will not be allowed to drink liquor, possess firearms or enter a public house and worst of all —not to go to the movies, where the boy seems to have had his regular training.

And yet American producers continue to give crime thrillers and wild west stories for teenage consumption.

BALANCING LOSSES

London, April 17.

1412 British exhibitors were granted quota relief during the year ending September 30, 1951.

The relief granted was from 25% to 10% against the statutory quota of 30%. The average quota in practice thus worked out to 25.6% for the whole country while the average proportion for showing of British-made pictures came to 28%.

30 is evidently too high a percentage for the exhibitors to follow.

TOO UNSTEADY TO LIVE !

New York, May 10.

45-year old Negro actor, Canada Lee, died suddenly on Friday the 9th May.

Canada had a successful stage career. From a violinist, he became a boxer and eventually took to the stage.

PRETTY EARLY

Hollywood, May 1.

60-year old producer, director and writer, Gregory La Cava, died of heart trouble at his home in Malibu Beach.

Born on March 10, 1892 at Towanda, Pennsylvania, Gregory began life as a newspaper cartoonist and then took to animation of cartoons.

In 1922 he entered the motion picture industry and in collaboration with C. C. Burr, wrote Torchy Stories and directed them. Some of Gregory's better known pictures are: "Gabriel Over The White

Every day Usha Kiran is looking smarter and smarter. She catches the eye in "Jhanjar", a supreme entertainer produced by C. Ramchandra and directed by Kidar Sharma.

House", "Stage Door", "Fifth Avenue Girl", "My Man Godfrey" and "Unfinished Business".

Gregory directed many big stars like Mary Pickford, William Powell, Claudette Colbert and Carole Lombard.

DOUBLE TONGUED

Ottawa, April 25.

The Canadian National Film Board's technicians are reported to have found out a new process for recording two languages on one sound track.

Till now each language version of a film required a separate sound track and a separate film. But now one language or the other can be cut in or out during the showing of a film with the help of a small "pushbutton" adaptor developed with the single sound track process.

The new process is based on a split sound track and the standard sound track is replaced by separate tracks joined together.

But for India's Babel of voices we will require a sound track to accommodate at least two dozen languages!

IN THE SHADOWS OF HOLLYWOOD

Los Angeles, May 8.

Just because she was unable to feed her children, a desperate, poverty-stricken mother stabbed her three children aged 3, 2 and seven months to death and then confessed her crime to the priest. The priest called homicide detectives to her home where Mrs. Ruth Edwards was found weeping over the dead bodies of her children.

Mrs. Edwards told the police that she gave her children breakfast and asked them to lie down on their beds and killed them with the butcher's knife. Her husband had left her many months ago taking with him two children.

And this grim tragedy was enacted in the land of plenty!

PROHIBITION PRIZES !

Bombay, April 19.

The Bombay State Prohibition Board gave the following prizes for the best drama, short story and poem on Prohibition, with an idea probably to keep alive the Prohibition farce.

Drama: Rs. 150 to Mr. M. V. Joshi for "Pooja Konachi"; Short Story: Rs. 50 to V. D. Koli for his "Gulacha Darubandi Prachar" and Poem: Rs. 30 to Mr. Gopalsingh Pardeshi for "Darubandi Karyamala".

Wonder if the Board made sure whether the prize winners were teetotallers!

CASHING ON ROMANCE

London, April 21.

The Bodleian Library of Oxford bought the manuscript of the Persian poem "Laila and Majnu" written about 1563 by Nizami for £600 sterling at Sotheby's auction.

The manuscript was originally used by James Atkinson (1780-1852) for translating this poem into English. His grandson G. Atkinson sent it for auction.

NEW HELP IN KILLING !

Tolworth, Surrey, April 20.

The Marconi Company has made a new apparatus for under-water television. Its camera can pick up images a hundred times more clearly than the human eye and it can see three times as far as a diver even in muddy waters. Mounted on a structures of tubular steel with 8 powerful lamps, it is sunk into the water from the side of a ship and operated entirely by remote control.

Some journalists saw on the television screen a diver sawing wood at the bottom of a tank filled with murky water. He also fished out a coin from the waters and this was also seen in detail.

This apparatus is likely to help scientists to fathom the mysteries of the oceans and revolutionize submarine war-fare.

DRINKING BLOOD !

Hollywood, April 21.

Hollywood star Mala Powers has been given three blood transfusions to combat an attack of anemia. She is much better now.

Mala is only 24 years old and is a Universal-International star. Too much of slimming seems to have brought on the anemia.

EASY COME, EASY GO !

Toronto, April 30.

Barbara Ann Scott, popular skating star, lost furs and jewellery worth thousands of dollars when thieves broke into her home while she was doing a skating show.

Her things included a mink coat, an ermine coat, a mink neckpiece, a grey kid jacket, a six-strand pearl necklace, several gold and diamond watches, rings, earrings, trophies and award pins.

Barbara was sentimentally attached to a gold clip pin presented to her by the Toronto Men's Press Club with the inscription "Princess of the Press".

The loot has not yet been recovered.

ALL QUIET, INDEED !

Berlin, May 1.

"All Quiet on the Western Front", a popular American film made in the early thirties and which was banned by Hitler, is today being shown in Western Germany, where it is used to foster anti-war feelings among the ex-soldiers of Germany who fought in the 1st and 2nd World Wars, and the general public.

A former artillery officer who fought with Erich Von Manstein's armies on the Russian front, said: "People will hail war as the supreme method of settling problems as long as they do not know or have forgotten what war really is—senseless slaughter and suffering for millions. These millions have to be reminded constantly—the more often the better and "All Quiet on the Western Front", does this splendidly.

Is an old picture required to bring home this truth? Isn't Gandhiji's sermon on non-violence the best message of peace man can listen and learn?

Noor, who looks almost like her sister Shakila, works in "Baghi", produced by Time Films.

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Woes & Echoes

(This is the reader's forum—as and when space permits. From the producer to the lay film-goer, every one can write to the Editor and ventilate his grievance. For every letter published in these columns, the publishers will pay Rs. 5|- Letters should be signed and marked "Woes and Echoes". Photographs of the readers will be published along with their letters, if convenient.—The Editor.)

I AGREE !

"The following passage is quoted from "Mahabharata" by Mr. C. Rajagopalachari, published by Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Bombay:

"The modern cinema also projects on the screen much that is bad and immoral. Whatever may be the explanation offered by the protagonists of the cinema, evil is presented on the screen in an attractive fashion that grips people's minds and tempts them into the path of wickedness. Not so in the Puranas. Although they do point out that even great men now and again fell into error and committed wrong, the presentation is such as to warn the reader and not to allure him into evil ways. This is the striking difference between our epics and the modern talkies, which arises from the difference in the character of the people who produced them".

"No doubt such a view is expressed by an eminent politician and one of the greatest living Indians but your comments will be helpful to your readers".

BOMBAY. *S. Narayanan.*

UNDER-STATEMENT ?

"I have been following with interest the controversy that has been going on in the Muslim Press about your editorial in "Filmindia". This aroused my curiosity and yesterday I read your editorial word by word. I was simply pleased to read it. As a student of history, I felt that yours has been a rather under-statement of the doings of Muslim kings, politicians and Maulvis in the name of Islam.

"That this factual and patriotic editorial should have created a storm of protest in the Muslim Press speaks volumes for its extra-territorial and anti-national loyalties and proclivities. They have been encouraged in it by the weakened and pro-Muslim policy of our government. But I can assure you that every patriotic Indian shares and appreciates your feelings and sentiments in regard to the Pakistani Muslims' attitude towards us as depicted in the film "Josh-e-Jehad." I heartily congratulate you for writing this editorial and the bold stand you have taken against the Muslim fanatics' hue and cry. I wish your noble example is emulated by other nationalist newspapers and journals in the country.

"You can always count on my support and there are millions of others in the country who think and feel like myself".

NEW DELHI. *Prof. Balraj Madhok.*

TRY FILM WEEKLIES !

"We have three cinemas here: Regal, Rivoli and Ritz. They are good, bad and indifferent respectively. But there is not much to choose in so far as their lavatories are concerned. Those in Rivoli are dark, those in Ritz emit a strong nauseating stink, while those in Regal offer you, instead of toilet paper, old copies of the daily 'Tribune'.

"Is this with a view to provide amusement to the patron while he performs the unpleasant but necessary task? Maybe, that is the idea! And if the managements are adamant in their belief that old, rough paper is not unhygienic or likely to cause scratches on the delicate parts, I have one humble suggestion to make: they should at least shed their provincial partiality and make arrangements for the supply of metropolitan newspapers like 'Hindustan Times', 'Times of India' too!"

SIMLA. *Kanwar Chawla.*

BLIND MICE !

"The cartoon 'The Plastic Curtain' published in the March issue of 'filmindia' throws a flood of light on your profound knowledge and wisdom which you so artistically blend with wit and humour with the subtle touch of an artiste. The way you have interpreted American tacts and moves you unquestionably stand as the real master and exponent of the situation. There is no denying the fact that you have a keen insight into political matters.

"But then we have also to study your cartoons in a lighter vein. I am sure your cartoons for a moment transport us to another world, divorced from the real one, and make us forgetful of the present miseries and misfortunes of the Congress regime.

"Lastly, I wish our Ministers have some robust appreciative faculty to understand the basic propositions underlying the cartoons pregnant with meaning and suggestions. They will do well to understand them in their full implications".

ARRAH. *Prem Chandra Sinha.*

KEEP HOPING !

"The article of Judas, "Faces to Order", in the Filmindia of March 1952, is highly commendable. It is repulsive to hear a hero calling his heroine full of pimples on her face with thick jet-black lips and moist dull glintless eyes, the most beautiful, lovely, wonderful girl in the whole world. Judas has failed to mention about the moustaches some of our heroines display on the screen. If some of these heroines are to be attired in manly dresses, what with their size and over-sized breasts, it would not be difficult to pass them as healthy full chested men.

"Here, in South India, the make-up of the artistes is still more deplorable. The gorgeously dressed queen mother looks more young and beautiful than her teen-aged daughter. A mere grey beard fluttering in the wind, distinctly seen to have been attached to the face without the hair of the head turned white and the cheeks still plumpy is considered enough for an aged king having a son, who is in a hurry to get a bride.

"The article "Faces to Order" has come in time and let us hope for better results in future".

MADRAS. *C. Mohammed Ali.*

FILMS FOR CEYLON !

"The Sinhalese film industry which was

Looks like Tarzan's mate! But that is Nargis, as a jungle princess probably, in "Amber", produced by Jagat Pictures and directed by Jayant Desai. "Amber" promises to be an exciting picture.

He Turned A Criminal

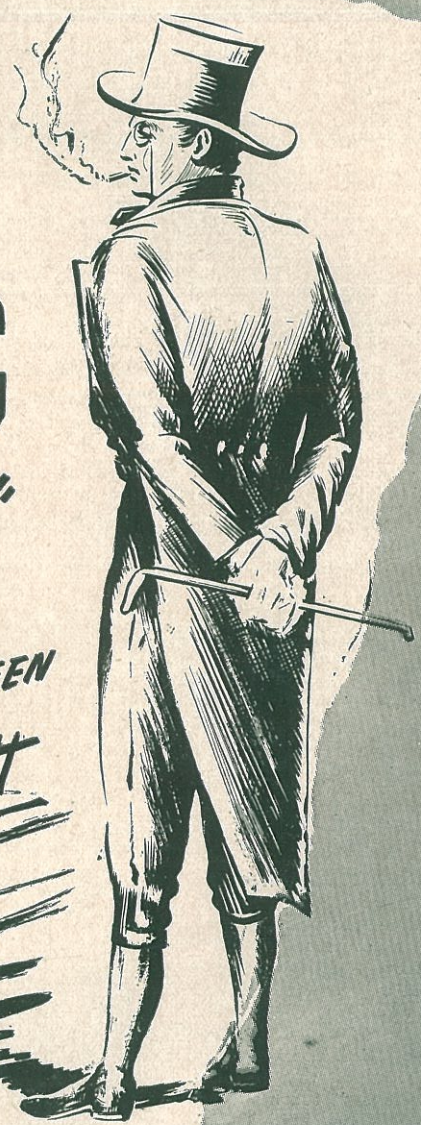
Little Realizing That

CRIME DOES NOT PAY!

See the Most Daring Story
Daringly Told

Falcon Film's

"PASSING SHOW"



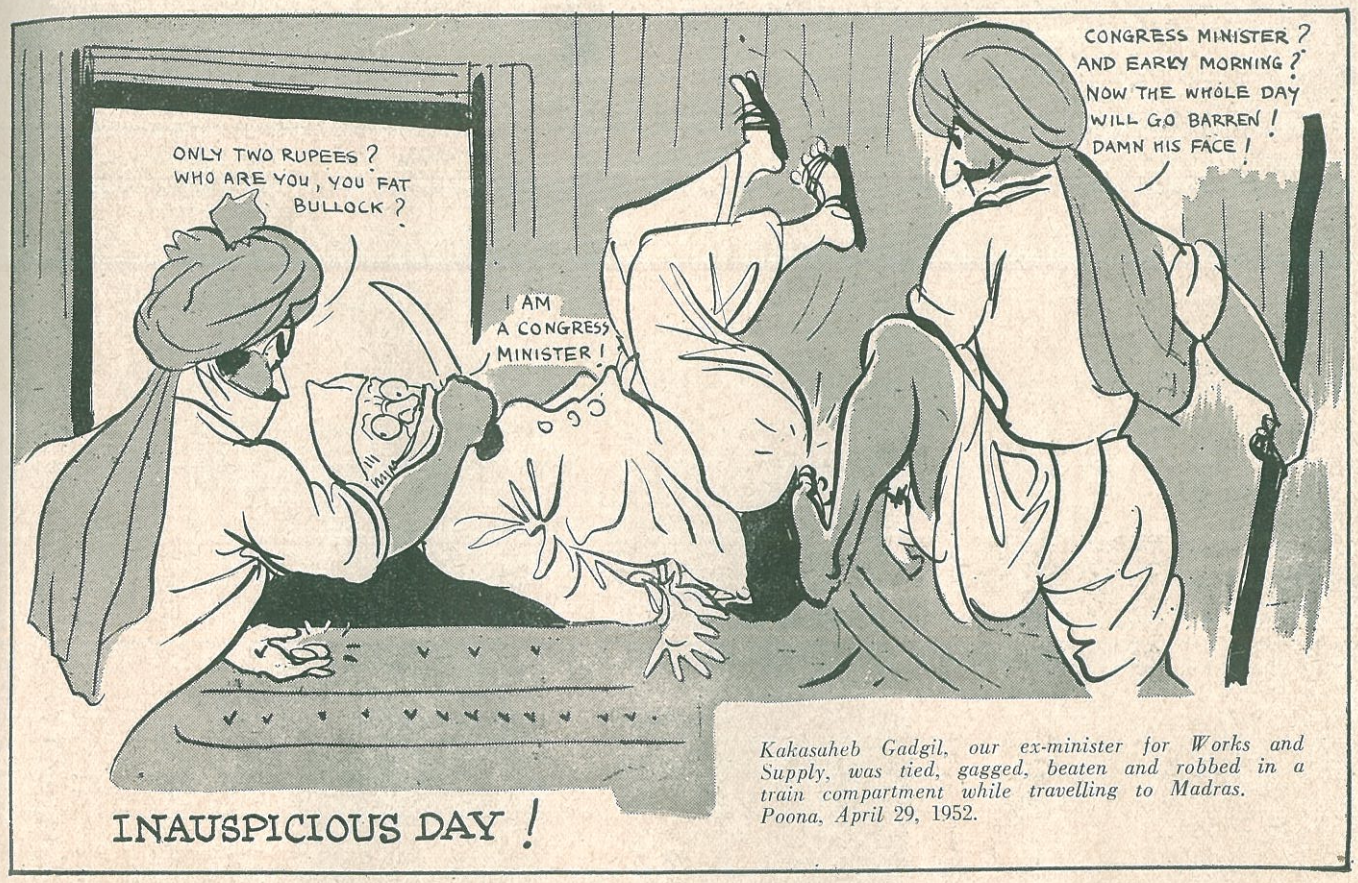
TOP NOTCH STARS OF INDIAN SCREEN

DIRECTED BY

Nanabhai Bhatt

CHANDU STUDIO

Contact: **FALCON FILMS,** 191, Kurla Road, Andheri.


ONLY TWO RUPEES ? WHO ARE YOU, YOU FAT BULLOCK ?
I AM A CONGRESS MINISTER !
CONGRESS MINISTER ? AND EARLY MORNING ? NOW THE WHOLE DAY WILL GO BARREN ! DAMN HIS FACE !
INAUSPICIOUS DAY !

Kakasaheb Gadgil, our ex-minister for Works and Supply, was tied, gagged, beaten and robbed in a train compartment while travelling to Madras. Poona, April 29, 1952.

established in about 1946, is yet in its infancy. Ceylon has produced about 13 films in 6 years. Most of them are poor in their production and technical qualities. So most of the Sinhalese who had to wait for years to see a film in their language, love Indian films and their music, although they cannot understand the dialogue.

"I think all the Sinhalese people will thank Indian producers if they dub their outstanding films such as "Awara", "Aan", "Badal" etc. in Sinhalese".

CEYLON. *L. D. Dayananda.*

WELL, MORARJI?

"The Government of Bombay rightly claim credit for having maintained communal peace all these years. Of late, however, writings in some of the Urdu papers of Bombay have tended to create disharmony between the various communities. The views and the presentation of news in these papers makes one wonder whether we are really living in a secular State. Much fetish is made of some extremely minor grievances (which more often than not prove to be imaginary on investigation), and trivial incidents which should arouse hardly any comment are magnified out of all proportion and an impression is sought to be created that the minorities in India are going through hell and fire. The pre-partition activities and policy of some of these papers need a thorough probe by the State Government and in the context of those the present writings should be judged.

"Will our energetic Chief Minister keep a watchful eye on their highly inflammable writings and thus give a lie to the view that the minorities in India are being pampered to the length of enjoying a license to give a bad name to the nation?"

BOMBAY. *Mohan Singh S.*

POISONED ATMOSPHERE !

"Jean Renoir's much publicized film 'The River' has turned out to be a mediocre picture. Apart from its many defects, the musical score is faulty. For the picture which shows life as is lived in Bengal has its background music in Carnatic School and I even heard the sound of a 'mridangam' played in it. Mr. M. A. Parthasarathy, the South Indian music director, who had obviously no knowledge of the Bengali music made a mess of the job entrusted to him. We have a number of music directors in Bengal like Kamal Das Gupta, Robin Chatterjee and Pankalal Ghosh whose services could have been very well utilised. As there are plans to produce pictures in India by westerners I hope that errors of this kind will not be repeated".

MADRAS. *S. A. Hasnath.*

TIGER OF KASHMIR ?

"Everyone in the world, except the prophetic Nehru, knows that we shall lose Kashmir one day. In fact Kashmir does not belong to us even today. Kashmir is a deficit province which we have to feed to gain the doubtful goodwill of the Kashmiris". It simply needs some commonsense to see how you (and of course, not Nehru) have been accurate and precise in your prophetic statements on Indian politics. It is logically established that you have a firm grip over political problems, equal to if not more than what you have over those appertaining the film industry.

"What has been said is well evidenced by a recent speech of Sheikh Abdullah made at Ranbirsinghpura which has eventually evoked much criticism from our leaders. The following day Sheikh Sahib came out with a modification but I think the myth of Kashmir has exploded. Some say Sheikh Sahib has spoken out his mind and it may be tragically true. Nehru, who himself is an ardent admirer of Abdullah, was "not very happy" over the said statement. It is apparent that the inner working in the mind of Abdullah, which you perceived long ago, has been revealed by his own statement.

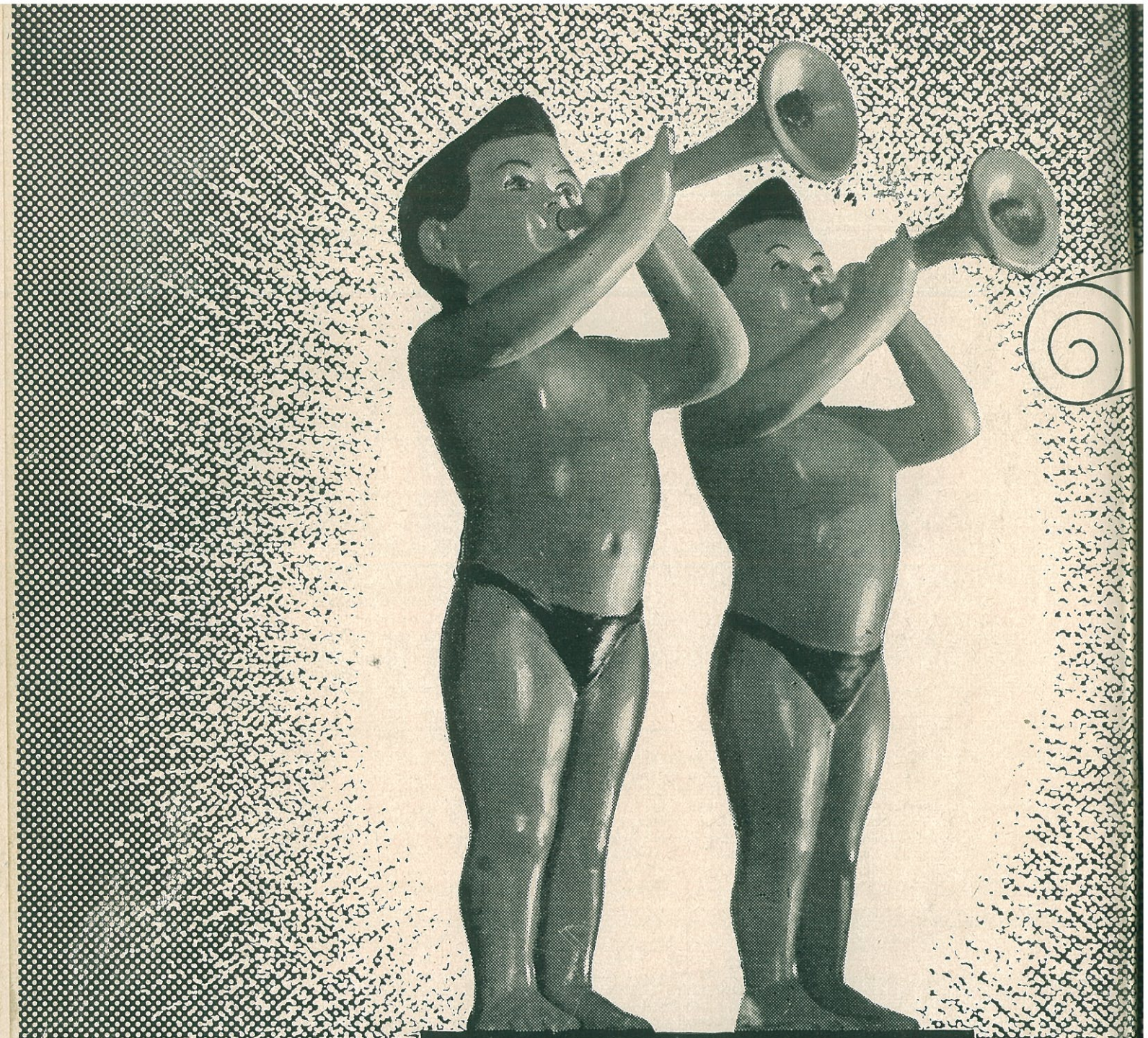
"Time alone will honour you as a man versed in politics though well detached from it. Now tell, Mr. Patel, isn't your prophecy a tribute to your genius?"

ARRAH. *Prem Chandra Sinha.*

NO !

"It becomes boring to see the sweepers in some of the best cinema houses in Bombay constantly saluting each and every person for the sake of small tips. Are they not being properly paid?"

BOMBAY. *Bhupendra Singh.*



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COOPERATIVE PICTURES
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/ SHEKHAR & PRAN
in
CHINGARI
with -
RAMESH SINHA
LEELA MISRA
PRATIMA DEVI
SHIVRAJ
SAREETA
ASIMA
and
RANDHIR
A.E.STUDIO
ZAFAR
Written by
MADHUSUDAN
Produced & Directed by
S. SRIVASTAVA
Music by
MANOHAR
: For Particulars :
COOPERATIVE PICTURES, 144, FAMOUS CINE BULDINGS, MAHALAKSHMI, BOMBAY, 11

Pictures in Making

RAJHANS PICTURES (Bombay)

Producers J. P. Agarwal and Bany Talwar have nearly completed their maiden production "Sangam" starring Bina Rai and Shekhar. S. U. Sunny personally supervised "Sangam" and with his experience we are inclined to think that he must have helped to make it a popular picture. Director Kiran Kumar is reported to have done his job well. The supporting cast consists of Shashikala, K. N. Singh, Jeevan, Murad and Rajrani. Seeing its potential box-office value, some distributors have already bought the rights of "Sangam" for Delhi, U. P., south, Bengal, overseas etc.

JAGAT PICTURES (Bombay)

"Amber", a spectacular social, starring Nargis and Raj Kapoor and directed by Jayant Desai, is getting the finishing touches. For sheer lavishness and grandeur, it is difficult to touch "Amber". One dance number alone cost one lakh and twenty five thousand rupees, requiring 63 dancers and 20 shooting shifts. The rest we leave to your imagination and we are sure no filmgoer dare miss "Amber". Others in the cast are Agha, Bipin Gupta, Ramesh Sinha, Baby Tanuja, Cuckoo, B. M. Vyas etc. "Amber" is scheduled for an early release at 50 different stations all over India. The paper work of their next social starring Vyjayantimala is ready.

MEHBOOB PRODUCTIONS (Bombay)

Producer-director Mehboob's "Aan" starring Nadira, Dilip Kumar, Nimmi and Premnath is being released in August and everyone seems to be on tenterhooks to see this five million rupee masterpiece. Mehboob who is in England at the moment, got the colour processing and printing done there and Naushad supervised the re-recording of the background music and special effects at the R.C.A. Studios, London. With beautiful colour, an action-packed story and catchy music, "Aan" is likely to hit the box-office target.

HINDUSTAN CHITRA (Bombay)

Director Sushil Sahu has completed a good bit of "Hamari Duniya" starring Asha Mathur, Kishore Sahu, Bharat Bhushan, Om Prakash, Kuldip Kaur, Hiralal and others. Freely adapted from "East Lynne" by Mrs. Henry Wood, "Hamari Duniya" has a rich drama interwoven with touching emotions which must necessarily appeal to the masses. Producer Kishore Sahu, the creator of many new exciting stars, is introducing another newcomer Bela in this one. Lyrics by Hasrat Jaipuri have been set to music by Shyambabu Pathak. Another attractive feature of "Hamari Duniya" is an exotic dance by Leonor Maria, the well-known Spanish danseuse.

AKASH CHITRA (Bombay)

"Angaray" starring Nargis and Nasir Khan is reported to have become an unusual picture. Producer-director K. B. Lall has added to its scenic value by picturizing a part of the romantic story against the beautiful Himalayan background. Paro, Jagirdar, Pran, Jeevan, K. N. Singh, Vanmala and Sunalini Devi have important roles. S. D. Burman is in charge of music.

N. V. M. PRODUCTIONS (Bombay)

The Mungrey Brothers have made steady progress with "Lal Kunwar" a story of mystery and thrills, starring Suraiya, Nasir Khan, Durga Khote, Jairaj, Usha Kiran and Agha. Director Ravindra who is fast becoming an expert in mystery stories, has made it quite exciting. There are some lilting tunes by S. D. Burman to make "Lal Kunwar" a box-office hit.

David plays a polished role in "Jalianwalla Baagh", a Famous picture, written and directed by Chowdhari.

GOPE PRODUCTIONS (Bombay)

Producer Ram Kamlani has put speed into his work and the result is that "Malkin" is fast nearing completion. Directed by O. P. Datta and written by Agha Jani Kashmiri, "Malkin" is a story of elemental passions with pretty Nutan and glamorous Purnima interested in Sajjan. Others in the cast include Pran in the role of the villain, Gope, Yakub, Durga Khote and Raj Mehra.

KAMNA PRODUCTIONS (Bombay)

Producer-director Devi Sharma is working enthusiastically on "Kamna" an unusual love tale written by Annie Shivji. The warm emotions of love are translated to the screen by beautiful Madhubala and Dev Anand. Though this is Devi Sharma's maiden attempt, we feel that he will make "Kamna" an interesting picture. Keki Mistry is in charge of photography. The musical score is by S. D. Burman.

NEW SAI PRODUCTIONS (Bombay)

Starring Kamini Kaushal and Sajjan, "Jhanjar" is likely to become something different in the hands of director Kedar Sharma. Some of the rushes give this impression and the finished product is bound to be a hit. The supporting cast consists of Usha Kiran, Motilal, K. N. Singh, Sunder and Om Prakash. Producer C. Ramchandra has given catchy music to make "Jhanjar" even more popular.

NIHAL FILM CORPORATION (Bombay)

"Aaghosh" starring Nutan and Nasir and directed by R. D. Mathur, is more than half-way through. The picture has its requisite quota of action, music and romance, to bring the masses to the theatres. The supporting cast consists of Agha, Leela Misra, S. Nazir and Meenakshi.

H. G. FILMS (Bombay)

With Goa making news on the political front, the theme of Portuguese domination seems to interest many a producer. The latest is Producer-director Guru Dutt who is tackling this theme in his maiden production "Baaz", taking us back to the 16th century when the Portuguese clashed with the Indians living on the west coast of India. "Baaz" stars the inimitable Geeta Bali. All luck to budding director Guru Dutt!

COOPERATIVE PICTURES (Bombay)

Produced and directed by S. Srivastava, an enthusiastic newcomer in the motion picture field, "Chingari" is one fourth completed already. Nalini Jaywant plays the heroine opposite Shekhar while Randhir, Ramesh Sinha, Leela Misra, Pratima Devi and Pran lend good support. Let us hope Srivastava makes "Chingari" a quality picture. Manohar has given the music.

GOEL CINE CORPORATION (Bombay)

Producer-director Devendra Goel has put plenty of mass appeal in "Aas" looking to the story he has selected. With vivacious Kamini Kaushal as the centre of attraction and talented Shekhar to play the hero, "Aas" has every chance of succeeding at the box-office. Lyrics by Hasrat Jaipuri and Shailendra have been appropriately tuned by Shankar and Jaikishan.

CHITRA NIKETAN LTD. (Bombay)

With Mr. I. G. Mehta's "Bahu Beti" nearing completion, the outdoor shooting

of his new social has already begun. This one brings together Bengali actress Smriti and Balraj as a romantic pair, supported by Nana Palsikar, Roopa Verman and S. Nazir. Mr. Mehta is producing his picture in collaboration with Messrs. Issar Palli Films. Director Shashi Bhushan will begin the shooting of indoor sequences in a month's time.

SHEETAL MOVIES (Bombay)

Ready for release is "Nirmohi" starring Nutan and Sajjan and directed by Baij Sharma. Producer Shree Ram Sharma has invested it with realism and that should appeal to the masses. Madanmohan of "Ankhen" fame has given catchy music.

BARODA THEATRES (Bombay)

"Bahu Beti" starring Geeta Bali, Vijaylakshmi, Amarnath and Jaswant and directed by C. L. Dheer, has been nearly completed. Producer I. G. Mehta has given the usual domestic drama a new twist. Some of the distribution rights have been already sold out.

MAJESTIC FILMS (Bombay)

"Farmaish" is reported to have become a highly tense, social melodrama and Producer J. Om Prakash is almost sure of its box-office success. It stars Vijaylakshmi and Bharat Bhushan in the main lead, supported by Kuldip Kaur, Pran, Gope, Amir Banu and Chandrashekhar. Shivsarandas Kashinath controls the world rights of "Farmaish".

CHITRAKAR (Bombay)

The Prakash Pictures studio is buzzing with activity as "Mashuqa" is nearing completion. Mukesh, one of our popular playback singers, plays the hero and melodious-voiced Suraiya his sweetheart. "Mashuqa" will, therefore, have a feast of music with these singers cast together in a romantic twosome. In the meantime, the script work of "Athkheliyan" by Santoshi is getting ready. Immediately "Mashuqa" is completed, director Shanti Kumar will start the shooting of "Athkheliyan".

ALL INDIA PICTURES (Bombay)

Producer P. N. Arora, one of our ever-active producers, is busy these days with the shooting of "Gohar" a powerful story written by well-known writer Azm Bazidpuri. This is the sixth production of this company and it might become a box-office hit like the earlier ones. Bina Rai is cast as the charming heroine opposite Rehman while the supporting cast consists of Agha, Cuckoo, Shamlal and two new finds, Miss Sarla and Miss Mohini who will dance their way into your hearts. F. H. Hassan is directing it. Music is by Ghulam Mohammed.

MOHAN PICTURES (Bombay)

Those filmgoers who seek relaxation in entertainment will find plenty of it in "Chham Chhama Chham" a swift-moving comedy directed by Santoshi. Rehana, Kishore, Mohana, Pran, Shakuntala and Mirza Musharaf all help to make the comedy entertaining. It has the "Santoshi formula" that spells box-office success.

SAGAR ART CORPORATION (Bombay)

While motoring to Panchgani for the outdoor shooting of "Mehman", writer-director Ramanand Sagar and cameraman Prakash Kohli met with an accident when their car toppled down twenty feet below a bridge. Luckily they had a miraculous escape and suffered only minor injuries. Ramanand is already better and has resumed shooting of "Mehman" starring Purnima, Nimmi, Premnath and Sajjan. Producer Asha Bishwas is bent on making it a popular hit.

SANTOSHI PRODUCTIONS (Bombay)

India Film Exchange has booked "Shinshinaki Booblaboo" for simultaneous release at the Minerva and the Excelsior, Bombay. At Delhi, it is drawing crowded houses and the roaring comedy seems to have been liked immensely by the masses. Rehana and Ranjan make a suitable romantic pair.

S. K. FILMS (Bombay)

Producer-director S. K. Ojha, who had temporarily stopped the shooting of "Naaz" has again resumed it with renewed vigour with a slight change in the cast. The role assigned to Nigar will now be played by the queenly Veena and with her exotic features she will look an Egyptian girl every inch. The story of "Naaz" is written by K. A. Abbas and stars Nalini Jaywant opposite Ashok Kumar. Ojha had taken his unit all the way to Cairo and London for outdoor locations last year.

KRISHIN MOVIETONE (Bombay)

Director Ram Daryani has presented Nargis in an entirely new kind of role and that is the main charm of "Pahili Shadi". Here she portrays the emotions of a girl who is obsessed with strange hidden fears and how she overcomes them is the gripping theme. A thoroughly fascinating psychological drama which should keep the audience in suspense till the last reel! Bharat Bhushan plays the hero while Manorama, Gulab, Motilal and Gope lend support. Robin Chatterjee is reported to have given lilting music.

VIKAS PRODUCTIONS (Bombay)

Starring Ranjan, Shyama, Jeevan and Harishivdasani, their production no. 1 yet untitled, is fast nearing completion at the Jupiter studios, Bombay. With director Jayant Desai directing it, success seems assured. Basant Prakash is giving the musical score.

ART FILMS OF ASIA LTD. (Bombay)

Producer-director Paul Zils has recorded the songs of "Shabash" an intelligent comedy starring Geeta Bali, Jagdev, Mirza Musharraf, Agha and Yashodhara Katju. It is a story of the crazy film world of the present day in which a group of fossils tries to prevent the entry of fresh blood. Meanwhile the script work of "Sitam" Zil's prestige production, is well on way to completion. "Zalzala" has already shown Zils as a capable director and we expect him to go even better in "Shabash" and "Sitam".

NEW PREMIER FILMS (Bombay)

Producer M. S. Ahluwalia and Ashok Kumar's joint production "Nau Bahar" had a roaring reception in Bombay where it had a simultaneous release at the Roxy, the Kismet and Broadway. The success of "Nau Bahar" has given a fresh lease of enthusiasm to Producer M. S. Ahluwalia and production no. 2, still to be christened, will go to the sets very soon. It will be directed by the well-kn Herbert Marshall, a British dire Roshan who is known for his pop melodies will give the music.

EMAR FILMS (Bombay)

Producer Mukul Roy has finalized script written by Krishan Chander hopes to start the shooting of his ma production soon. The story is set in island where pretty girls wear garl of conch-shells and dance before the god and vivacious Geeta Bali is one s whose romantic life heightens the be ful surroundings. Playback music will given by the popular Geeta Roy.

FILMISTAN LTD. (Bombay)

Director Nandlal Jaswantlal has n completed "Prince Salim and Anark the tragic story of a dancer in love a prince. It stars pretty Bina Rai o site handsome Pradeep. Director He Gupta's "Anand Math" is reported have become an exciting picture. "H nam" directed by D. D. Kashyap is n ning well at the Krishna Cinema, Bom

NAYA SANSAR (Bombay)

Producer-director K. A. Abbas took unit to Lucknow and Mussoorie for door shooting of "Anhonee". This d mic social presents Nargis in a do role and with her versatile talent we pect her to lift the story to great heig Raj Kapoor plays the role of a law while Om Prakash, Agha and David l good support.

MANMOHAN FILMS (Bombay)

Mr. Manmohan, who has started company, has made a good beginning taking K. A. Abbas' story "Akash" picturization. Lively Nadira plays heroine opposite Dev Anand. Anil Bis is in charge of music.

FILMCO (Bombay)

More than half of "Nagma", a spe cular costume romance, is ready. lyric-writer Nakshab composing ly directing and producing "Nagma", feel confident about its success. Na the new heart-throb of millions, is centre of attraction while Ashok Ku is the boy in love with her. Other the cast are Om Prakash and Shakil

JAYANT DESAI PRODUCTIONS (Bombay)

"Hazaar Raten", an Arabian Ni fantasy, starring Rehana and directed Jayant Desai is reported to have bec a delightful entertainer. Jayant De next is called "Hemlata".

FAMOUS PICTURES (Bombay)

Director R. S. Choudhary is wor day and night on "Jalianwalla Baagh" historical depicting a glorious chapte our freedom's fight. The cast consist Jagdish Sethi, Karan Dewan, Kam Kumari, Achla Sachdev, David and haiyalal.

MANGAL PICTURES (Bombay)

Director Vasant Joglekar tackles a theme in his "Jeet Kisi ki" starring lini, Rajan, Baburao Pendharkar, G. D. Madgulkar etc. The story s how a village panchayat can contribut the peace and happiness of a vi through the tragedy of a quarrel be two friends who lose everything in longed legal squabbles.

Printed by Archibald Pereira at New Jack Printing Works, Ltd., Globe Mills Passage, off Delisle Road, Bombay 13, and published by him for FILMINDIA PUBLICATIONS, LTD., from Phirozshah Mehta Road, Fort, Bombay.

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